Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-94-151
Friday
5 August 1994

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Daily Report
Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-94-151 *5 August 1994*

CONTENTS

INTERREGIONAL AFFAIRS

Almaty Hosts Meeting of Central Asian Presidents *[SELSKAYA ZHIZN 4 Aug]* 1
Armenia-Azerbaijan Talks Begin in Russia *[ITAR-TASS]* 1
Commission To Promote Closer Integration in CIS *[ITAR-TASS]* 1
ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 5 Aug 1

RUSSIA INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

14th Army Commander Comments on Dismissal Rumors *[IZVESTIYA 5 Aug]* 3
Gen Rejects Speculation on Disbanding 14th Army *[INTERFAX]* 3
Defense Ministry: 'No Question of Lebed's Removal' *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 5 Aug]* 3
Reports of Mutiny if Lebed Removed Rejected *[ITAR-TASS]* 4
Disbanding of 14th Army 'Excuse' To Remove Lebed *[IZVESTIYA 5 Aug]* 4
Implications of Disbanding 14th Army Viewed *[MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS 4 Aug]* 5
Churkin Urges Serbs To Assume 'Personal Responsibility' *[ITAR-TASS]* 6
Spokesman Denies Contacts Frozen With Bosnian Serbs *[ITAR-TASS]* 6
Spokesman Hopes Bosnian Serb Vote 'Not Final' *[INTERFAX]* 7
Duma's Lukin Opposes Force in Bosnian Crisis *[INTERFAX]* 7
Grachev Denies Inviting Serb Krajina Leaders *[ITAR-TASS]* 7
Question of U.S. Joint Exercise 'Not Closed' *[PRAVDA 3 Aug]* 7
Yeltsin, Lukashenka Cited on 3 Aug Kremlin Meeting *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 4 Aug]* 8
Yeltsin, Kuchma Agree To Sign Treaty in Fall *[ITAR-TASS]* 9
Joint Patrolling of Border With Ukraine Begins *[ITAR-TASS]* 9
Yeltsin Statement Criticizes Latvia *[ITAR-TASS]* 9
Foreign Ministry Issues Warning to Tajik Opposition *[Radio Rossii]* 10
Yeltsin Scheduled To Arrive in Germany 30 Aug *[ITAR-TASS]* 10
Diplomat Calls UN Haiti Decision 'Difficult Compromise' *[INTERFAX]* 10
Russian 'Official' Involvement in Yemen War Denied *[ITAR-TASS]* 11
Foreign Ministry Official Details Rwanda Aid Program *[ITAR-TASS]* 11
Agreement Reached To Update Iraq's Oil Fields *[INTERFAX]* 12
Official Urges Lifting UN Sanctions Against Iraq *[INTERFAX]* 12
Proposal for ROK To Repay Debt With Arms Denied *[IZVESTIYA 5 Aug]* 12
ROK To Buy Arms Worth at Least $100 Million *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 5 Aug]* 13
Moscow Denies High-Level Taiwanese Contacts *[ITAR-TASS]* 13

RUSSIA NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political Issues

Filatov Asks Leaders To Avert 'Social Explosion' *[ITAR-TASS]* 14
Zhirinovskiy, Borovoy Start Presidential Campaign *[ITAR-TASS]* 14
Government Approves Compensation for Nazi Victims *[ITAR-TASS]* 14
Government Sets Aside R1 Trillion for Harvest *[INTERFAX]* 15
Zaveryukha: No Alternative to Agricultural Reform *[SEGODNYA 4 Aug]* 15

Economic Issues

MMM Leader Detained 'in Solitary Confinement' *[ITAR-TASS]* 15
Tax Police Explain Detention Order *[ITAR-TASS]* 15
Tax Police Seize MMM Documents *[ITAR-TASS]* 15
MMM Bomb Scare Proves To Be 'False Alarm' *[INTERFAX]* 16
MMM President Orders Exchanges Closed *[ITAR-TASS]* 16
Stock Exchange Official Blames Government for MMM Situation *[INTERFAX]* 16
Energy Ministry Prepares New Agreement With Oil Exporters *[INTERFAX]* 16

Military & Space Issues

Military Plane Crashes in Chita Oblast *[ITAR-TASS]* 17
Special Commission To Investigate *[ITAR-TASS]* 17
Engine Problems May Have Caused Crash *[ITAR-TASS]* 17
Cosmos-2286 Satellite Launched *[ITAR-TASS]* 17
Smolensk, Kolsk AES Workers Continue Protest *[INTERFAX]* 17
Russia Leads in Number of Nuclear-Powered Submarines Built *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 4 Aug]* ... 18

Federal Assembly

Duma Presses for Hefty Subsidies to Agriculture *[SEGODNYA 3 Aug]* 18
Committee Chair on Running State Duma's Work *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 2 Aug]* 19

Regional Affairs

Dudayev Chairs Chechen Military Council Session *[ITAR-TASS]* 21
Chechen Parliament Says Leadership in Full Control *[ITAR-TASS]* 21
Interior Minister Pledges Support for Dudayev *[ITAR-TASS]* 21
Dudayev Cites 'Incidents' on Chechen Border *[ITAR-TASS]* 21
Chechen Border Troops' Concentration Claims Denied *[INTERFAX]* 22
Chechen Opposition Calls For Support for Mamadayev *[ITAR-TASS]* 22
Intelligence Services Reject Chechen Accusations *[ITAR-TASS]* 22
Shakhray Views Political Solution for Chechnya *[INTERFAX]* 23
Chechnya's Mamadayev Urges 'Restraint' From Cossacks *[ITAR-TASS]* 23
Khasbulatov Warns Cossacks Against Action in Chechnya *[INTERFAX]* 23
Dudayev, Labazanov Cited on Standoff *[SEGODNYA 4 Aug]* 24
Ingush President Favors Peaceful Settlement in Chechnya *[ITAR-TASS]* 24
N. Ossetian Official Comments on Chechnya Situation *[Moscow TV]* 24
Stavropol Offical Denies Roundup of Chechens *[Moscow TV]* 25
Stavropol Procuracy Accuses Chechnya of Destabilizing Area *[Moscow TV]* 25
Chechnya Denies Obstruction During Hostage Operation *[ITAR-TASS]* 25
Hijack Gang Leader Sentenced to Death *[ITAR-TASS]* 25
Wisdom of Krasnoyarsk Nuclear Plan Doubted *[IZVESTIYA 2 Aug]* 26

UKRAINE

International Affairs

Foreign Ministry Deplores Bosnian Serb Plan Rejection *[INTERFAX]* 28
Kiev Outlines Change in Stance on FRY Sanctions *[INTERFAX]* 28
Atomic Energy Chief Cited on Western Aid Linkage *[SEGODNYA 4 Aug]* 28

National Affairs

Lethal Isotopes at Chernobyl May Trigger 'Blast' *[Kiev International]* 29
Further on Contamination *[ITAR-TASS]* 29
Kuchma To Sign Economic Reform Decrees *[INTERFAX]* 29
Worst Grain Yield in 20 Years Expected *[ITAR-TASS]* 30
Moroz: Privatization 'Will Not Be Suspended' *[INTERFAX]* 30
Moroz Discusses Regional Issues in Lvov *[ITAR-TASS]* 30
Prospects for Access to World Markets Viewed *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 2 Aug]* 31
Crimean President Establishes Security Body *[UNIAN]* 32
Crimean Interior Minister Supports Connection to Kiev *[INTERFAX]* 32
Crimean Deputies Vote for Dual Citizenship *[INTERFAX]* 32

WESTERN REGION

Belarus

Lukashenka Amends Government Structure *[INTERFAX]* 34
New Ministers Appointed; Probable Secretaries Named *[Minsk Radio]* 34
National Bank Restricts Circulation of Rubles *[Radio Rossii]* 34
Deal Made To Partially Repay Russian Gas Debt *[BELAPAN]* 34
Borisov Plant Continues To Dismantle Weapons *[Minsk Radio]* 34

Moldova

Reaction to Bucharest's Statement on Constitution *[BASAPRESS]* 35
Use of Term 'Romanian Language' May Be Punishable *[BASAPRESS]* 35
Government Reduces Natural Gas Fees *[BASAPRESS]* 35

CENTRAL ASIA

Kazakhstan

Oil Deliveries Via Russian Transit To Double *[ITAR-TASS]* 36
Foreign Minister Talks With ROK Ambassador *[KAZTAG]* 36
DPRK Cooperation, Talks Protocol Signed *[ITAR-TASS]* 36
Grain Harvest To 'Fully Meet' Requirements *[RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA 3 Aug]* 36
Government Seeks Higher Oil Transit Quotas *[INTERFAX]* 36

Kyrgyzstan

President Paves Way for Independent Judiciary
[NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA 3 Aug] 37
Resolution on Strengthening Legal Power *[Bishkek Radio]* 37
World Bank Makes Grant for Social Protection Plan *[Bishkek Radio]* 37
Akayev Orders Rail Link of 'Strategic Importance' *[INTERFAX]* 38

Tajikistan

Russian Military 'Neutral' in Inter-Tajik Conflict *[ITAR-TASS]* 38
Iranian Foreign Minister on Inter-Tajik Talks *[ITAR-TASS]* 38
Border Guard Captives Freed in Military Operation *[ITAR-TASS]* 39

Uzbekistan

Karimov Assesses Situation in Tajikistan *[INTERFAX]* 39

CAUCASUS

Armenia

Attack From Nakhichevan Repulsed *[Yerevan Radio]* 40
Planned Russian Military Base in Armenia Discussed *[TURAN]* 40
Kazimirov Notes Plans To Visit Conflict Zone *[ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN]* 40
Nagorno-Karabakh Makes Appeal on POW Exchange *[SNARK]* 41
3,000 Tons of Grain Delivered From U.S. *[ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN]* 41

Azerbaijan

Turkish Military Assistance Reported *[SNARK]* 41
Bonds To Be Issued To Finance War Effort *[Russian TV]* 41

Georgia

Quadripartite Talks on Refugees Begins in Sochi *[Moscow Radio]* 41
Abkhaz Side Said Not To Attend Meeting *[ITAR-TASS]* 42
Official Meets With Russian Peacekeeping Commander *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 5 Aug]* 42
Ukrainian Official Visits Zugdidi To Discuss Ties *[Tbilisi Radio]* 42

BALTIC STATES

Estonia

Laar Says Treaty With Russia Must Be Reviewed *[BNS]* 43
Russian Commander on Paldiski Dismantling *[BNS]* 43

Latvia

Yeltsin Reaction to Citizenship Law Said Perplexing *[Riga Radio]* 43

Lithuania

Bomb Scare Forces UK's Major To Divert Route *[BNS]* 43
Envoys Briefed on Drought Damage *[BNS]* 44
Defense Minister on Peacekeeping *[Copenhagen POLITIKEN 3 Aug]* 44

Almaty Hosts Meeting of Central Asian Presidents

MM0408122794 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 4 Aug 94 p 3

[Report by Leonid Kalashnikov: "Step Toward Confederation"]

[Text] That was how Askar Akayev, one of the participants in the Alma-Ata [Almaty] meeting of the three heads of state—of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan—assessed its results at a Bishkek news conference. He said:

"The agreement reached in the Kazakhstani capital is a breakthrough on the integration front politically, economically, and culturally. The tripartite agreement signed by us should be a good incentive for other CIS countries whose peoples realize that it is far easier to solve complex problems together than in isolation."

The doors of the emerging "alliance of three," Kyrgyz leader Askar Akayev believes, are open to all the republics of the former USSR.

"This is probably a true step toward a confederation, a step toward the creation of a Eurasian alliance, the idea of which was mooted by Kazakhstani President Nursultan Nazarbayev, and I warmly support it," Askar Akayev stressed at the news conference.

When asked by journalists about his attitude toward L. Kuchma's becoming president of Ukraine and A. Lukashenka's victory in Belarus, Askar Akayev replied:

"In my view, the processes of strengthening the Commonwealth countries will now be more dynamic."

Armenia-Azerbaijan Talks Begin in Russia

LD0508074594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0609 GMT 5 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Aug—Talks between Azerbaijan and Armenia at the level of experts have just begun in the Russian Foreign Ministry residence in Meshcherino, outside Moscow. They are taking place with the mediation of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. On the agenda is the development of measures to consolidate the truce in the zone of the Armenian-Azerbaijan conflict. The sides previously confirmed their readiness to observe a truce until a major political agreement on settling the problem was signed.

Taking part in the meeting on the Russian side is Vladimir Kazimirov, the Russian president's special envoy and head of the mediation mission of Russia for a Karabakh settlement.

Commission To Promote Closer Integration in CIS

LD0308182694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1517 GMT 3 Aug 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Andrey Shtorkh]

[Text] Moscow August 3 TASS—A four-party commission consisting of Russian, Ukrainian, Byelorussian [Belarus], and Kazakh intellectuals will begin working soon to promote closer integration of the four Republics.

In an interview with ITAR-TASS on Wednesday [3 August], Chairman of the State Duma Committee for CIS Affairs Konstantin Zatulin, who was one of the initiators of the establishment of the commission, said that the commission will seek to "concentrate the potential of progress on the path towards closer integration of the major CIS countries."

He said that apprehensions about integration are often caused by the misunderstanding that it will be based on the "elder brother—younger partner" scheme.

The four-party commission includes politicians, business people, scientists, scholars and journalists of Russia, Ukraine, Byelorussia, and Kazakhstan. Its major objective is to break this stereotype and bring it home to people that integration is a process which will admit of no discrimination and will provide equal conditions for all participants.

"We must find a common language that will enable us to understand each other," Zatulin said.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 5 Aug

LD0508063294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0554 GMT 5 Aug 94

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow August 5 (TASS)—Moscow-based newspapers today highlight the situation concerning Chechnya and developments in the former Yugoslavia.

IZVESTIYA carries an interview with Ya. Poladov, investigator of particularly important cases at the prosecutor's office of Stavropol territory, who now probes into the terrorist acts commited at Mineralnyye Vody.

Poladov described a lead about the involvement of Chechen secret services in the acts of seizures of buses with hostages near Mineralnyye Vody as sufficiently founded.

According to the investigator, the perpetrators of the terrorist act in may said during an investigation and at the trial that the seizure of hostages had been organised and inspired by a man who showed them the identity card of a member of the Chechen security service.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA associates the situation concerning Chechnya with a possible multinational, "but in point of fact American", invasion of Haiti. Russia supported the respective U.N. Security Council resolution, although China, for example, abstained from voting.

"If Moscow decides to bring about a military solution in Chechnya and hold Djokhar Dudayev in check, we shall not hear shouts from across the ocean about Russia's aggressiveness"

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA interviewed Vitaliy Churkin, Russia's first deputy minister of foreign affairs, who said about the Bosnian Serb Assembly decision as follows: "Russia, with all its respect for referenda as a way to determine the will of the people, in this case has taken up a negative attitude to the Bosnian Serb Assembly decision".

"This referendum will be held under war conditions when a considerable proportion of the Serbian population of Bosnia- Herzegovina are unable to participate in it because they are outside it as refugees," Churkin told the newspaper.

Russia would have favoured a different position of the Bosnian Serb leadership: politicians, aware of their responsibility to the entire Serbian people, as leaders promoted from among the people during a conflict, would independently decide in favour of the peace plan. Thereby a serious step would be made towars peace both in Bosnia itself and throughout the former Yugoslavia, Churkin said.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA on Russia-Belarus cooperation plans.

President Alyaksandr Lukashenka of Belarus told the newspaper that he would come forward with the idea of an early withdrawal of Russian troops from Belarusian territory. The president pointed out that the army of his country would not be able to discharge its duty without contact with the Russian Army.

IZVESTIYA interviewed Lieutenant General Aleksandr Lebed, commander of the 14th Army of the Dniester region. He told the newspaper in a telephone interview that he did not rule out the possibility that he would have to get discharged from the armed forces.

The 14th Army, the talks on the withdrawal of which from Moldavian [Moldovan] territory have been going on for three years now, is to be disbanded, the newspaper writes.

This manifests a desire of the Russian leadership to solve two military-political tasks. The first one: Moscow is prepared to give a signal to Kishinev [Chisinau] that it is prepared to withdraw the 14th Russian Army from Tiraspol in response to Moldova's constitutional guarantees that it would not unite with Romania. The second task is that under a plausible excuse Russia would transfer General Lebed, who, according to a number of officers, "has fallen into disfavour", from the region. However, the problem concerning Russian troops in the Dniester region after the disbandment of the 14th Army control department remains open, not resolved, the newspaper points out.

RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA carries an article about the contentious problem of psychotronic weapons.

According to the writers of the article, experiments in a directed non-contact influence by special electromagnetic fields are conducted in Russia. This may become more dangerous than nuclear or hydrogen bomb, chemical or bacteriological weapons.

Psychotronic generators can suppress the will of a person and impose upon him the will of an evildoer. "Efforts to develop such weapon, test it on humans and upgrade are being continued," the authors of the article maintain.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA on a search conducted by fiscal police in the apartment of MMM joint-stock company president Sergey Mavrodi.

The newspapers quotes Vladimir Senin, first deputy chief of the fiscal police department, as saying that the task of the police is to found documents which contain data about the number of MMM shareholders and the company incomes obtained of late, and to find out whether part of incomes was concealed from taxation.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

14th Army Commander Comments on Dismissal Rumors

MM0408154094 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Aug 94 pp 1, 2

[Report by Svetlana Gamova incorporating telephone interview with Lieutenant General Aleksandr Lebed in Moscow; date of interview not given; published under the general headline: "Dniester Region Is Left Without the 14th Army, and General Lebed Is Left Without a Job"]

[Text] Kishinev [Chisinau]—The 14th Army, talks on whose withdrawal from Moldavian [Moldovan] territory have been going on for three years now, is being disbanded.

It has been learned that Colonel General Eduard Vorobyev, deputy commander in chief of the Russian Ground Forces, arrived in Tiraspol with a directive on disbanding the army's command. At a meeting with a group of Tiraspol City Soviet deputies he attributed this to the process of cutting the Russian Army and to the withdrawal of Russian troops from trouble spots.

According to Deputy S. Sorokin, the deputy commander in chief also referred to the situation that has arisen concerning the 14th Army and its commander, Lieutenant General Lebed, who is in conflict with the Dniester region leadership. In the 14th Army itself these changes are linked with the commander's comments in the press, specifically in IZVESTIYA newspaper. In the opinion of officers, who are in the dark about the reorganization and who are apparently to reinforce the ranks of Dniester region armed forces in the near future, "General Lebed has fallen out of favor."

In a telephone conversation with me, Lebed himself confirmed the receipt of the relevant Defense Ministry directive and does not rule out the possibility of his compulsory dismissal from the Armed Forces. Since "the head must fit the body" the command of the division which is being left in place of the army is ruled out for Lebed, and the lieutenant general has received no other offers.

[Gamova] Aleksandr Ivanovich, what do you make of the situation that has arisen?

[Lebed] An analogy can be drawn. Since they could not remove Gorbachev, they pulled the country out from under him. They are pulling the army out from under me.

[Gamova] What happens next?

[Lebed] Next there is war. Without the 14th Army in the Dniester region the fights and showdowns will start again....

[Gamova] What is going to happen to you now? Surely a general cannot be unemployed?

[Lebed] Why not? In a democratic country anything is possible....

[Gamova] What would an unemployed general do?

[Lebed] We will look into that....

Lt. Gen. Lebed answered IZVESTIYA's questions by telephone from Moscow, where he is currently on leave. In the near future he will return to Tiraspol, but only, as they say, to get his things.

Gen Rejects Speculation on Disbanding 14th Army

LD0408173594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1601 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Deputy Chief Commander of Russia's Land Troops General Eduard Vorobyev rejected as far fetched widespread speculations that Defense Minister Pavel Grachev has ordered the disbanding of Russia's 14th Army, deployed in Moldova, by September 1.

Vorobyev, currently at army headquarters in Tiraspol, speaking on the line with Interfax on Thursday described the rumors as rubbish, saying the minister's order was not about the fate of the 14th Army and that its disbanding was not on the agenda.

Vorobyev said the order provides for disbanding some army command structures in Moldova.

He said Army Commander Aleksandr Lebed was informed about the directive before he went on leave. "He was not dismissed as army commander or offered a new job," Vorobyev said.

"The future of the 14th Army is being discussed as part of negotiations with Moldova, with the next round of talks to be held in Kishinev [Chisinau] on August 9-11," Vorobyev said. The general leads the military part of the Russian delegation in talks with Moldova.

Defense Ministry: 'No Question of Lebed's Removal'

MM0408191594 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Aug 94 p 1

[Undated press relase from the Russian Federation Defense Ministry Information and Press Directorate: "To Optimize Command Structures"]

[Text] Colonel General Eduard Vorobyev, deputy commander in chief of Ground Forces, is on a working visit to the Dniester region. The aim of the visit is to optimize the command structures of forces stationed on Moldovan territory. This work has been going on for over a month now. The group of officers headed by Col. Gen. Vorobyev has been instructed to study the situation on the ground and formulate proposals to bring the 14th Army's existing command structure into line with the actual number of troops subordinate to it. The point is that there is only one division and certain units under

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

army command in this region at the moment. But in numerical terms (over 200 people) the army command corresponds to a full-size large unit (which is several divisions).

Lieutenant General Aleksandr Lebed, commander of the 14th Army, is currently on leave. Back in July he was familiarized with the aims and objectives facing the working group headed by Col. Gen. Vorobyev. There is no question of Lebed's "removal" from his post because the working group could not have been set this task, since army commanders are appointed to their posts and removed from their posts not by the defense minister but by the president. There is no task to "disband by 1 September" the 14th Army, which certain mass media hastened to report.

The next round of Russian-Moldovan talks, at which work on the draft agreement on the status, conditions, and procedure for the withdrawal of the 14th Army will be continued, is scheduled for 9 August. It is proposed that this withdrawal could be effected within three years of the appropriate agreement's signing.

There is a tranquil, working atmosphere prevealing in the 14th Army at the current time. Scheduled combat training is in progress.

Reports of Mutiny if Lebed Removed Rejected

LD0408123894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1222 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow 4 Aug (TASS)—Lieutenant-Colonel Gennadiy Fomenko, operations officer on duty of the 14th Russian Army stationed in the Dniester region, denied the reports which appeared in Western news media today alleging that 200 officers of the 14th Army will not obey the defense minister of the Russian Federation if commander of the Army Aleksandr Lebed is removed from his post.

Valeriy Litskai, state secretary of the unrecognized Dniester republic, qualified these reports as the ones absolutely not corresponding to reality. He also told ITAR-TASS in an interview that Eduard Vorobiyov, first deputy of the commander-in-chief of the Russian land troops, met with leader of the Dniester republic Igor Smirnov today.

According to Valeriy Litskai, the delegation of the Russian Defense Ministry headed by Eduard Vorobiyov, came to the Dniester region to conduct an inspection, as well as take part in the next round of the Russian-Moldavian [Moldovan] talks on the settlement of the Dniester region problem.

Disbanding of 14th Army 'Excuse' To Remove Lebed

MM0408150094 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Aug 94 pp 1-2

[Report by Viktor Litovkin under the general heading: "Dniester Region Is Left Without the 14th Army, and General Lebed Is Left Without a Job"]

[Text] The disbanding of the 14th Army reflects the Russian leadership's desire to solve two military-political problems.

The first is to send a signal to Chisinau: Moscow is willing, in response to Chisinau's constitutional guarantees of nonunification with Romania and a federal solution to the questions of the Dniester region and Gagauzia, to withdraw from Tiraspol the 14th Russian Army, something that Moldovan President Mircea Snegur and the state's parliament have always firmly insisted on. The second is to use the disbanding of the army as a plausible excuse for removing from that region Lieutenant General Aleksandr Lebed, commander of the 14th Army, who, it is no exaggeration to say, has recently become a popular hero in the Dniester region and a thorn in the flesh of its leadership, as well as a man who enjoys great prestige among the Russian public. Both these problems are hard to solve.

The 14th Army is an army only in name. In practice it is only a reinforced motorized rifle division headed by an army command—some 150 officers of the operational echelon. The main thing that has made this army an army is the strategic stockpiles of the former Odessa Military District, which were intended for the deployment of a mighty troop formation in the event of the outbreak of war. Such stocks of materiel (weapons, combat equipment, ammunition) cannot be removed overnight.

It will take a great many freightcars, lengthy talks with Ukraine, through whose territory the trains have to pass, and guarantees from the leadership of the unrecognized Dniester republic that these armaments will not be expropriated by its armed formations, which consider these resources to be theirs on the basis of a decree of the republic Supreme Soviet.

It cannot be ruled out that the Russian leadership has obtained guarantees for the removal of the stockpiles from the Dniester region in exchange for a promise to find a new job for General Lebed—hence the next step.

Although Lebed, as he has repeatedly declared, will not accept just any job. Most likely he will be offered the post of commander of a first-category district or deputy commander of the mobile forces that are currently being set up. That is appropriate to his experience and his capabilities, and also it would not injure the army commander's self-esteem.... But let us not speculate.

The main thing is that Lebed is leaving the Dniester region. Presumably his career not only as a major military leader, but also as a personality with social and

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

political weight in Russia, will not end with the 14th Army, otherwise it would be yet another serious mistake by the president and his entourage, including his military entourage (in Russia, those who are persecuted for telling the truth become leaders of the people).

But the problem of Russian troops in the Dniester region is also not resolved with the disbanding of the 14th Army command, it remains open. Maybe the Moldovan leadership will agree to the presence of the motorized rifle division in Tiraspol as a Russian military base? Maybe the final withdrawal of those troops that remain there will be dragged out indefinitely, and then the two parties that are still in conflict—Chisinau and Tiraspol—will have the opportunity to find a political solution to their problems, and Russia to prepare housing and a material and economic base for the division's servicemen?

We will receive answers to these questions in the near future.

Implications of Disbanding 14th Army Viewed

MK0408114394 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 4 Aug 94 pp 1, 2

[Report by Aleksandr Minkin: "The Swan [Lebed]-Hunt Begins. 14th Army Ordered To Die"]

[Text] Colonel General Vorobyev, deputy commander of the Russian Army, who suddenly arrived by plane from Moscow, addressed the officers of the 14th Army. He read out to them the following directive by Defense Minister Grachev, signed 22 July:

"The 14th Army must be disbanded by 1 September. Lists of officers willing to be discharged or transferred to Russia must be submitted by 10 August. Authority must be entrusted to the division commander."

One man was missing in the audience: Lieutenant General Aleksandr Lebed, commander of the 14th Army. He went on vacation 19 July. On 2 August, Grachev's emissary told officers in Tiraspol that their commander would not return from vacation. Vorobyev did not specify what was in store for Lebed.

Where is the 14th Army located? Officially, in Moldova. Effectively, in the Dniester Region (a republic that has not been recognized by any one). It protects the interests of Moldova's Russian-speaking population, and Russian interests.

Where is it being moved in such a hurry? How much will the number of homeless officers increase? Will they take with them their weapons, of which there are enough to arm three armies, not just one division? At any rate, such arsenals cannot be evacuated within one month, or within one year for that matter.

A division will hardly be able to control the safety of the weapons. Until Lebed arrived in the Dniester Region, even an army could not prevent huge quantities of equipment and ammunition from being seized and stolen.

Should the 14th Army disappear, residents of the Dniester Region will be left to their own devices. Did we not have enough bloody lessons in 1992? It was then that Gen. Lebed stopped the war. Moldova suffered a severe blow, and Dniester Region Moldovan Republic rulers were ready to wash their savior's feet and drink the water.

Everything has changed since then. Now the main enemy for the Dniester Region Moldovan Republic [DRMR] is not Chisinau, but the 14th Army commander, who has been openly accusing them of committing grave crimes.

The DRMR's main achievement is that it has remained zone of old money. When old Soviet money was suddenly abolished, a tiny area was left on the territory of the former Soviet Union where the bills with Lenin are still valid.

From all CIS (USSR) republics that were thrown out of the ruble zone with one single kick, trainloads of old money were heading for the Dniester Region. For a few months the official exchange rate of the old rubles against the new ones was 1:1. It is hard even to imagine the profits of those who transported the worthless pieces of paper to where they immediately turned convertible.

Chiefs of the Tiraspol Central Bank would not answer my questions about how much old money is in circulation in the DRMR: This is a secret. Presently, new stamps with the portrait of Suvorov are put on the old bills. Forging them is an easy job.

There are numerous ways of profiting from this financial policy. But on one condition—you must stay in power. The pawns who lead the Dniester Region apparently suit Russia. Their dark past makes it easy to control them from Moscow.

Unfortunately, Gen. Lebed calls thieves, "thieves," in a rude and tactless manner. The Dniester Region authorities could not reach a compromise with him. They summoned all their strength to get rid of Lebed. Recent Moscow visits by DRMR President Smirnov and the DRMR special service chief, Shevtsov, were devoted to just that. Vorobyev's arrival with the directive to fire Lebed has shown who gained the upper hand in the behind-the-scenes intrigues in Moscow. (Grachev's official emissary was welcomed in Tiraspol by a technically non-existent DRMR general, not the 14th Army commanders).

Reprisals are looming in the DRMR. The republic's KGB minister has officially requested from the DRMR internal affairs minister a list of Internal Affairs Ministry staffers who have left for the 14th Army, and their personal files. Presumably, the "traitors" will be given a hard time.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Moscow has openly sided with the DRMR leadership in its struggle with Lebed. This is attributable both to Gen. Lebed's huge popularity, and the very tiny popularity of Gen. Grachev.

Polls among the officer elite have shown that 100 percent of teachers and students of Moscow military academies "do not see Grachev as defense minister." According to other polls, 70 percent of officers would prefer Lebed at the helm of the Russian Armed Forces. Presumably, if he has 70 percent behind him, the remaining 30 percent are rushing to join them. Thus, Lebed's popularity in army circles is currently close to the maximum.

Had things evolved quietly and peacefully, Grachev would apparently have been dismissed sooner or later. And, possibly, Lebed could have become defense minister. But...

Grachev (whom did he consult with, I wonder) has started pushing Lebed toward the presidency. Until now, the only thing Lebed was lacking was persecution. Now, our wise authorities have provided him that. All the recent years are sufficient proof that it is precisely persecution by the authorities which assures its target election victory.

By transferring the conflict to a higher sphere, Grachev, of course, acted wisely. But does he really think that Lebed would out of gratitude let Grachev stay on as minister once he becomes president?

Will the discontentedly grumbling Russian Army accept a situation where a minister it dislikes dismisses a commander it favors?

Will Lebed prove scrupulous enough to forswear alliances with opposition members, many of whom have for some reason been amnestied, alliances he has been constantly offered?

In the current unstable situation, the country would prefer to see Lebed as a presidential ally.

Churkin Urges Serbs To Assume 'Personal Responsibility'

LD0408145594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0913 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Dmitriy Gorokhov]

[Text] Moscow 4 Aug (ITAR-TASS)—"It seems to us that it would be more correct for the political leaders to assume personal responsibility and sign the peace plan," Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Vitaliy Churkin said today commenting on the Wednesday decision of the Bosnian Serb assembly, which he saw as "an inadequate response to the latest proposals".

The parliament in Pale refused to accept the contact group's latest proposals for the settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The results of the debates announced on Wednesday night only confirmed the decisions made by the same assembly earlier.

As concerns the proposed referendum on the peace plan, Churkin said that with all respect for the idea of a popular poll as a form of expression of the people's will, it should be viewed with a certain scepticism "in conditions of war, when everyting is mixed up and the bulk of the population is outside Bosnia and Herzegovina," he said.

This was described as an inadequate repsonse also because "we think that this is a problem for all Serbs, and the Bosnian Serb assembly is not a forum where final decisions can be made," Churkin said. "This is why we look forward to a final, positive response to the peace plan, coming from all Serbs."

As concerns the proposed referendum on the peace plan, Churkin said that with all respect for the idea of a popular poll as a form of expression of the people's will, it should be viewed with a certain scepticism "in conditions of war, when everyting is mixed up and the bulk of the population is outside Bosnia and Herzegovina," he said.

There are no plans for convening the contact group on the former Yugoslavia following the resolution of the Bosnian Serb assembly, Churkin said. "The political leaders should assume personal responsibility and sign the peace plan," he said.

Spokesman Denies Contacts Frozen With Bosnian Serbs

LD0408152494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1447 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Andrey Shtorkh]

[Text] Moscow August 4 TASS—The report dispatched through INTERFAX news agency channels with the reference to a "high ranking official from the Russian Foreign Ministry" alleging that Russia is "freezing" its contacts with Bosnian Serbs is incorrect and incautious, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Grigoriy Karasin told ITAR-TASS in an interview today.

"Sometimes we spend a lot of efforts to find these 'high ranking officials," he stressed. "even if such a statement was really made it is very incautious—one should not use such words as 'freeze relations'. I consider them quite erroneous," Grigoriy Karasin noted.

"The official position of Russia is that, as we are hoping, the decision of the Bosnian Serbs' parliament to put off the approval of the international peace plan again and hold a referendum on this issue is not final," the Russian diplomat pointed out explaining the Russian side's approach to relations with Bosnian Serbs.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

"Certainly, it is for Serbs themselves to decide as to what answer they will give to the proposals of the contact group for the bosnian settlement—a free expression of the people's will is what it is. But one should not forget about the conditions under which such a referendum will be held: combat actions, various clashes, the factor that many Serb refugees are outside the Serb Republic—all this suggests rather a skeptical attitude. Most likely the moment has now come when politicians themselves must assume responsibility for making decisions."

Assessing the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina as a whole, Grigoriy Karasin called it "critical". "Any delay in the settlement of this issue (the approval of the Contact Group's peace plan—ITAR-TASS) will lead to no good," the Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman believes.

"The official appeal of the Serb leadership to Bosnian Serbs published yesterday in the Belgrade press is very resolute and very strong. It is a principled statement which prompts them to take determined and positive actions. Belgrade understands how dramatic the situation is and, let us hope, Bosnian Serbs in Pale will also understand it," the Russian diplomat emphasised.

Spokesman Hopes Bosnian Serb Vote 'Not Final'

LD0408121194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1116 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Russia hopes that the decision of the Bosnian Serb parliament to hold a referendum on the Bosnian settlement plan is not final, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Grigoriy Karasin told Interfax Thursday.

He drew attention to the fact that "the referendum will take place in war time when very many people have been forced to leave their homes and become refugees."

Karasin said these factors made Russia skeptical toward a referendum, and added that the Bosnian Serb leadership should take upon itself responsibility for a solution to the crisis.

He said that this was the message sent by Belgrade to the Bosnian Serbs, a message which, he said, cannot be dismissed.

Duma's Lukin Opposes Force in Bosnian Crisis

LD0408181194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1601 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Russia must use all its influence in the international arena to foil any attempts to try to bring a military solution to the Bosnian crisis, head of the State Duma's International Affairs Committee Vladimir Lukin said.

In an interview with Interfax on Thursday, he described as lamentable, though not surprising, the Bosnian Serb parliament's resolution to put the international peace plan to a referendum. He said the resolution signaling a step towards war, which is now hard to avert, is designed only to bide time.

At the same time, Lukin said the Bosnian Serbs were not the only party to blame. He accused the other side—Moslems and Croats—of provoking the Serbs. Lukin said the threat of lifting the arms embargo against the Moslems also played a part in fanning tensions.

The Russian official described as sensible the Bosnian Serbs' demands for further guarantees of reunification with Serbia proper. "Their wish to obtain much safer and much wider corridors to link Serb-held lands in Bosnia are not without grounds," Lukin said.

Russian diplomats, he said, must bargain hard with the "contact group" and keep in permanent contact with Belgrade and Bosnian Serbs.

Grachev Denies Inviting Serb Krajina Leaders

LD0508080994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0710 GMT 5 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Aug—Army General Pavel Grachev, Russia's Minister of Defense, did not invite the leaders of the Krajina Serbs to visit Russia. The assertion by some foreign mass media that the invitation was given on 27 July during Pavel Grachev's visit to the Russian battalion that is part of the UN peacekeeping forces in the east sector in former Yugoslavia is at variance with the truth. This was reported to ITAR-TASS by the information and press directorate of Russia's Ministry of Defense.

Question of U.S. Joint Exercise 'Not Closed'

MM0408120994 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Aug 94 p

[Report by Yu. Nikiforenko, deputy in the Orenburg Oblast Legislative Assembly: "Maneuvers Around Maneuvers: B. Yeltsin Did Not Listen to the People of Orenburg. Now They Are Appealing to B. Clinton"]

[Text] The Kremlin's plan to conduct Russian-American command and staff exercises at the Totskoye test range prompted a stormy reaction in society and in many regions of Russia. If only because the American 3d Division preparing to fly 250 of its officers and men in to the southern Urals has won a dubious kind of fame in a whole series of countries. Concern expressed by State Duma and Orenburg Oblast Legislative Assembly deputies and many public organizations forced the Russian Federation Defense Ministry to stall. The deadline for the start of the military exercises was put back two months—that is, to 6 September. But preparations for it are in full swing.

In local media sources the voice of protest has been muffled at every turn. The illusion has been created that

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

"everything in the garden is rosy." Meanwhile, letters, petitions, and appeals have flooded into Moscow from people opposed to the planned exercises. Their position was taken up by the popular patriotic newspapers PRAVDA, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, ZAVTRA, GLASNOST, LITERATURNAYA ROSSIYA, VETERAN, and other widely-read publications.

A short while ago a group of State Duma deputies spent some time in Orenburg at the military test range. The group made the visit to ask advice, to hear objections, and to assess the situation.

So what happened? State Duma Defense Committee Chairman S. Yushenkov could not even find time to enquire as to his committee colleagues' view, nor did he feel like hearing the arguments of representatives of the public. Speaking on oblast radio, he presented matters in such a way as to imply that it was "sick people" who were protesting and that it would do certain party leaders no harm, in his view, to go for treatment.

Could it be that in his spare time between political battles Yushenkov managed to pick up the skills of a doctor, healer, or sorcerer and was making so bold as to offer a diagnosis to his opponents? But as far as we know, military man Yushenkov has nothing to do with medicine, nor has he had in the past.

Representatives of the oblast organization of war, labor, and armed forces veterans, which unites over 400,000 Orenburg citizens, along with those of the "Officers' Union," the oblast Russian Federation Communist Party and Agrarian Party of Russia organizations, the association of voters "For Social Justice," the Lenin People's Fund, and the "Pravda" political club, and, finally, deputies from the Orenburg Oblast Legislative Assembly expressed resolute opposition to the upcoming exercises. But they, unlike the "hardened" democrat Yushenkov, refrained from the primitive market-place devices typical of this representative of "Russia's Choice." They merely expressed bewilderment in connection with the deputy's over-free behavior.

Incidentally, the generals—E. Vorobyev, deputy commander of the Russian Army Ground Forces, and Anatoliy Sidyakin, commander of the 27th division stationed in Totskoye-2—were far more restrained in conversation with the opposition: Obviously they realized that, for all their differences, the people standing before them were not self-seeking opportunists but the native population of Orenburg, and that this was by no means a gathering of "city lunatics," as the oblast radio had tried to depict them.

Many local publications nourished by the oblast administration zealously "smash through" the wave of protest. Other journalists do not even shy away from spreading knowingly false information—anything to calm public opinion. So it is that the youth newspaper NOVOYE POKOLENIYE [new generation] is trying to convince locals that "the exercises will be conducted wholly and completely at the expense of the American side. They will pay for everything, even the process water."

Actually, that is not how things are at all. The Americans will assume the expenses for their part of the exercises alone—this will total $2 million, and not a cent more. The Russian Army and its command are coughing up the money from their own country's budget, and the total expenditure is, as yet, restricted information.

The Russian Federation president, as far as can be ascertained, has made a decision that the exercises will go ahead, and that is all there is to it.

The oblast inhabitants are beginning to think that Federation components are far from equal among themselves and that there are, in general, few people in Moscow who take account of their rights. Decisions are taken for them in the hush of top offices. While the workers, it seems, are accorded the role of observers and listeners.

This is what usually happens when "the Kremlin chiefs think for us." Incidentally, this matter is not closed. Public organizations intend to call for the resignation of Orenburg Oblast Administration Chief Vladimir Yelagin and Russian Federation Defense Minister Pavel Grachev if the Totskoye exercises do take place.

Steps are being taken to talk to U.S. President B. Clinton (it seems the Russian president is unwilling to listen to the Russian people). Not long ago a letter of protest from the people of Orenburg was sent via the U.S Embassy in Moscow to President Clinton. The militia diligently guarding the gloomy residence near Moscow's "White House" were unwilling to allow a deputy from the Oblast Legislative Assembly to meet with embassy representatives.

"If you want your letter to get thrown out with the garbage, give it to me," the watchdog of law and order declared scornfully.

There would be no point in throwing it out. Better to keep knocking until the knocks are heard. At the other checkpoint, a guy in uniform from the outset also advised categorically that the letter should be mailed. But after a thorough examination of the document he allowed it to be handed to the janitor, and he entered the letter in the embassy register. However, there are great doubts about whether this voice from Russia's heartland will reach the U.S. President, and whether the President will demonstrate common sense and call off his "peacemakers'" flight to what is for them the foreign and very distant land of Orenburg....

Yeltsin, Lukashenka Cited on 3 Aug Kremlin Meeting

MM0408082794 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 4 Aug 94 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Meeting Between Boris Yeltsin and Alyaksandr Lukashenka"]

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Text] A working meeting between Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Belorussian [Belarusian] President Alyaksandr Lukashenka has been held in the Kremlin.

Boris Yeltsin noted that Russia had followed the progress of the election campaign in Belorussia and made a high assessment of the desire of the Belorussian president to live in friendship and cooperation with all the peoples on the territory of the CIS. "We can continue to get closer on the basis of a confederation or other forms of cooperation within the CIS," he said. Boris Yeltsin noted the large contribution of the Belorussian people to victory in the Great Patriotic War and announced his invitation to the Belorussian president to the major ceremonies marking the 50th anniversary of Victory.

Boris Yeltsin expressed the hope that the Belorussian president would strive for cooperation within the framework of the CIS.

"Our conversation and working meeting were held in a constructive spirit," Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin stated at the end of the meeting with President Alyaksandr Lukashenka of the Republic of Belarus.

Belorussian President Alyaksandr Lukashenko believes that "full mutual understanding and support for the Belorussian stance were forthcoming from Boris Yeltsin." He also reported that the Russian president has accepted an invitation to pay an official visit to Belorussia in the near future.

The Belorussian president informed journalists that he intends to discuss 13 economic problems with Russian Federation Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin.

Yeltsin, Kuchma Agree To Sign Treaty in Fall

LD0508092894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0846 GMT 5 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Nechayayev]

[Text] Moscow 5 August TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin will visit Ukraine in late September or early October of this year to sign a full-scale treaty between the two countries, according to presidential press service chief Anatoliy Krasikov.

Krasikov told ITAR-TASS that Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma had a telephone conversation during which they agreed to prepare the treaty for signing within the next month-and-a-half.

Joint Patrolling of Border With Ukraine Begins

LD0408110494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0932 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[Text] Moscow, 4 Aug (TASS)— Joint patrolling of the Russian-Ukrainian frontier starts today. This became possible after the signing of an agreement in Odessa on Wednesday [3 August] on interaction and cooperation between the frontier troops of Ukraine and Russia. It was signed by Colonel General Andrey Nikolayev, head of the federal frontier service of the Russian Federation, and Army General Valeriy Hubenko, chairman of the State Committee for Defense of Ukrainian State Borders and commander of Ukraine's frontier troops.

"The agreement signed is a new step in strengthening friendship between the fraternal peoples and is in its own way unique, because there is not a single case in world practice of joint guarding of frontiers by two states," Major General Aleksey Kozhevnikov, head of the international treaty directorate of the federal frontier service, told the ITAR-TASS correspondent in a conversation today.

The patrolling procedure is especially stipulated in the agreement, Kozhevnikov reported. Some simplification of the system of movement of citizens through the border checkpoints is envisioned. Mentioned in the document is cooperation among the frontier guards of the two states during the conducting of operations aimed at combating law-breakers.

In General Kozhevnikov's opinion, combating illegal migration, stopping the unlawful trafficking of weapons and drugs across the frontier, and smuggling are among the priority tasks facing the Russian and Ukrainian frontier guards.

Yeltsin Statement Criticizes Latvia

LD0408123594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1127 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Moscow, 4 Aug (ITAR-TASS)—The press service of the president of the Russian Federation today issued the following statement by President Boris Yeltsin of the Russian Federation:

"The attention of the world community is once again being drawn to the situation which has developed in Latvia in connection with the repeated assertion by the Saeima of that country of its discriminatory citizenship law. Adoption of the law has been a serious test for Latvian statehood, which is not yet fully established, and an assessment of that country's proclaimed adherence to European and worldwide humanitarian and democratic values.

Studying the final text of the law one can draw the conclusion that Latvian parliamentarians have failed to pass this exam and have ignored the international community's growing concern over Latvia's dangerous drift toward militant nationalism. They have, in fact, paid no notice to a considerable part of the recommendations given by the CSCE, the Council of Europe, and the European Union. Instead of adjusting its policy in line with the high European and world standards in the sphere of human rights, Latvia has chosen to divide

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

people into first and second class and legitimize discrimination on ethnic grounds. As a result, on the eve of the 21st Century we are witnessing a young independent state turning into a seat of ethnic intolerance elevated to the rank of official policy. One can easily imagine the consequences such policy can have for Latvian society and stability in the Baltic region.

By doing this the Latvian Republic is crossing out the positive advance attained through the sides' enormous efforts in the process of settling all the aspects of withdrawal of Russian troops from that country.

Russia cannot be reconciled to the fact that hundreds of thousands of ethnic Russians in a neighboring country are put in what is essentially a humiliating situation. We are proceeding from the fact that they have a right to remain in those states where they were born or where they have lived for many years. It is precisely these states that bear the responsibility for the provision of the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of our fellow countrymen.

Russia will build its policy with regard to Latvia and plan practical steps, proceeding from the situation that has taken shape.

The government of the Russian Federation has been charged with defining practical approaches to cooperation with Latvia, including in the field of trade and the economy.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia has been instructed to draw the attention of international organizations and our leading partners to this example of scandalous disregard of international standards in the field of human rights.

I, as president of the Russian Federation, state that the Russian Federation will give all the support it can to our fellow countrymen living abroad and confirm the readiness of our state to grant Russian citizenship without impediment to our fellow countrymen who so desire, in line with Russian legislation, and also to defend and offer protection to all ethnic Russians in Latvia and outside Russia generally.

Foreign Ministry Issues Warning to Tajik Opposition

LD0408192294 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1800 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] The situation remains tense in Tajikistan Attacks by Tajik opposition fighters on subunits of Russian border troops, both along the Tajik-Afghan border and within the republic, have become more frequent of late. In this connection, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Grigoriy Karasin made a statement on Thursday:

[Begin Karasin recording] I once again appeal to the leaders of the Tajik opposition to give up their provocative actions against Russian border troops and warn them that, if these actions continue, the border troops will take resolute measures using all the forces and means at their disposal. The responsibility for this will rest on leaders of the opposition, who are striving to wreck the process of achieving a peaceful settlement in Tajikistan. [end recording]

Yeltsin Scheduled To Arrive in Germany 30 Aug

LD0308184594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1734 GMT 3 Aug 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Kulbitskiy]

[Text] Bonn August 3 TASS—The program of the forthcoming visit of Russian President Boris Yeltsin to Berlin on the occasion of the accomplishment of the withdrawal from Germany of the Western grouping of Russian troops has been on the whole agreed upon, Norbert Schaefer, deputy official representative of the German Government, told ITAR-TASS today. He specified that the final details of Boris Yeltsin's visit to Germany will be elaborated in the next few weeks.

According to the preliminary program, the head of the Russian state is due to arrive in the German capital on 30 August. On the following day he will meet with German Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl. Then a ceremony at which both Boris Yeltsin and Helmut Kohl will make speeches, will be held in one of the well-known Berlin halls "Schauspielhaus."

The program also envisages the laying of wreaths by the memorial to the Soviet soldier-liberator in the Treptow Park and the monument to victims of war and violation "Neue Wache."

It is also planned that in the course of his visit the Russian president will meet with head of the German State Roman Herzog.

Diplomat Calls UN Haiti Decision 'Difficult Compromise'

LD0408162594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1314 GMT 4 Aug 94

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature: by correspondents Aleksandr Korzun, Igor Porshnev, Yevgeniy Terekhov and others]

[Text] The UN Security Council resolution which sanctions the use of force to dethrone the military junta in Haiti, has become, to a certain extent, the product of a "difficult compromise", Interfax was told by director of the Russian Foreign Ministry's international organizations department, Aleksandr Gorelik.

He said that the United States insisted on the adoption of the resolution. "I would not say that the Americans are attempting to solve their problems at the expense of the United Nations, but the document contains a link between the actions of the possible coalition forces and the future UN involvement," said the diplomat.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

He said that similar precedents did take place, for example, during the operation in Somalia.

Marking the close cooperation between Russia and the United States within the UN framework, Gorelik admitted that Moscow and Washington come to understanding with difficulty on many issues.

He said that Russia had many complaints to the initial text of the UN Security Council resolution on Haiti. Until the last day we did not agree with the document and voted "yes" only after we achieved a compromise on many provisions, he said.

Asked by Interfax on the period of the military operation in Haiti, Gorelik said that it is a matter of weeks. The UN Security Council agreed with its implementation and there is no need for any additional sanctions, he said.

At the same time the diplomat did not rule out the possibility that there will be no interference. He said that so far only the Americans are preparing for the action.

Latin American countries do not feel enthusiastic about it, said Gorelik. According to some reports, only Argentina and some states of the Caribbean are prepared to give their backing and take part in the operation, he said.

The diplomat said according to his information, the United States and Latin American countries are adding pressure on the junta in Haiti. Latin Americans want to delegate to Haiti a special mission to persuade the military to give up power, he said.

Gorelik flatly denied the possible involvement of Russia in the allied military actions in Haiti. However, he believes that at the last few stages of the operation the United Nations could accept several Russian military observers.

Russian 'Official' Involvement in Yemen War Denied

LD0408113094 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1015 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Yuriy Tyssovskiy]

[Text] Moscow, 4 Aug—"No Russian combat aircraft or pilots officially representing Russia took part in the Yemen civil war on the side of South Yemen," Valerian Shuvayev, head of the section of the countries of the Arabian peninsula of the Middle East and North Africa Department of the Russian Foreign Ministry, has said.

For an ITAR-TASS correspondent he commented by telephone on the article by Rowland Evans and Robert Novak on this subject published in today's WASHINGTON POST. The U.S. journalists claimed in it that "financed by Saudi Arabia, Russian combat aircraft and pilots secretly carried out bombing raids during the civil war in Yemen, something which shocked U.S. officials and called in question Moscow's appeals to Washington to develop partnership."

In connection with this Valerian Shuvayev recalled that as early as February, that is, before the armed conflict in Yemen started, Moscow decided to halt any supplies of military hardware to that country considering the aggravation of political confrontation between North and South Yemen. Also, Russia supported the appropriate resolutions of the UN Security Council aimed at stopping the war as soon as possible and employed all its influence to prevent military deliveries to Yemen from third countries.

The high-ranking Russian diplomat noted, inter alia, that Sana had already asked Moscow to examine reports claiming that South Yemen had got hold of modern MiG-29 fighters while radio interception allegedly recorded communications between pilots in Russian. He confirmed that the investigation that was carried out had ruled out any involvement by Moscow in giving South Yemen such aircraft with pilots.

At the same time Valerian Shuvayev did not rule out that some weapons could have reached Yemen bypassing Russian official authorities and explained this by the fact that Russia has "a black market" which is difficult to control while some enterprises have direct links with foreign customers.

As regards the "Russian-speaking pilots," these could be people of any nationality who had been trained in the former USSR.

Foreign Ministry Official Details Rwanda Aid Program

LD0408193494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1850 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Valeriy Sevryukov and Petr Cheryomushkin]

[Text] Moscow August 4 TASS—Thanks to the international community's decisive measures a human disaster has been averted in Rwanda. "Russia has been effectively participating in delivering aid," said Igor Scherbak, deputy director of the international organization department in the Russian Foreign Ministry. Scherbak had taken part in the Geneva conference on Rwanda.

"Having taken part in delivering humanitarian aid, Russia has chosen the most effective way of its participation, corresponding to her capabilities," the Russian diplomat said during a briefing today.

The situation in Rwanda is although extremely critical, but not so hopeless, Scherbak said. In compliance with priority tasks decided by the United Nations, there are plans to restore transport and aviation infrastructure in Rwanda, to accumulate stocks of food, drinking water,

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

medicines, and the formation of international contingents, which will ensure security and safety of the Rwandan refugees and repatriates, he said.

The donor states will allocate 147 million U.S. dollars for humanitarian aid to Rwanda, the Russian spokesman said. The United States has earmarked 250 million dollars, and the European Union countries have also allcated an identical amount. Russia's contribution is transporting refugees and prompt delivery of humanitarian aid. There are two Russian motor transport detachments working in Rwanda under the authority of Ministry for Emergency Situations. They consist of about 30 large trucks and 60 drivers, he said.

Russia got itself actively involved in transporting aid, in compliance with a package of services prepared by the U.N., dividing work among donor states in providing aid to Rwanda. Among others this included from restoring water supply to repairing aerodromes, roads, etc. the Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Igor Scherbak said that Russia is participating in rendering transport services. "Russia has additionally earmarked emergency aid to the refugees by sending a heavy transport plane to Zaire with a consignment of baby food, the Russian diplomat informed.

Agreement Reached To Update Iraq's Oil Fields

LD0308144694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1255 GMT 3 Aug 94

[Text] Moscow and Baghdad have agreed that Russia will start work to develop and update Iraqi oil fields even before international sanctions on Iraq have been lifted.

A Russian delegation which visited Baghdad last month showed understanding of the Iraqi Oil Ministry's position, an official from the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations told INTERFAX.

The official said Russian oil workers will start work at three major oil fields in Iraq. The Russian companies will conduct geophysical exploration and drilling at one of the fields.

The production sharing project will cost $2.3 billion. No information on the terms or deadlines in the project was available. The official said the Russian and Iraqi governments must made a decision on the project.

Unconfirmed reports said Baghdad wants its oil minister to visit Moscow to discuss bilateral cooperation. The Russian Ministry of Fuel and Energy said it is willing to receive the minister.

Official Urges Lifting UN Sanctions Against Iraq

LD0408172994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1601 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Russia would like the UN Security Council to respond adequately to positive shifts in Baghdad's positions, which according to a special UN commission for Iraq's disarmament and the International Atomic Energy Agency has abolished its weapons of mass destruction and the potential to produce them.

Director of the Information and Press Department of the Russian Foreign Ministry Grigoriy Karasin said that Moscow is not proposing the immediate lifting of sanctions.

"We believe, however, it is important to take note of the obvious shifts in implementing international resolutions and point to the need for establishing an early date for the Security Council to look intc the lifting of the oil embargo against Iraq," Karasin said.

He emphasized that a comprehensive settlement in the Persian Gulf would be impossible without the fulfillment of other demands, apart from disarmament, which the Security Council has made on Iraq.

Baghdad must clearly and unambiguously recognize the sovereignty of Kuwait and its international border and clear up the future of Kuwaitis listed missing in Iraq in the course of the conflict," Karasin said. "Only after that, the chapter of the tragic events of 1990-1991 can be closed and it will be possible to seek Iraq's full-fledged return into the international community.

Proposal for ROK To Repay Debt With Arms Denied

MM0408150594 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Aug 94 p 3

[Feature comprising reports by Aleksandr Platkovskiy and IZVESTIYA Press Service: "Moscow Could Sell a Nuclear Reactor to North Koreas and Weapons to the South"]

[Text] Robert Gallucci, U.S. assistant secretary of state for politico-military affairs, has met with Ministry of Atomic Energy representatives in Moscow and discussed with them the idea of replacing the DPRK's gas-graphite reactor, built with the assistance of the USSR and capable of producing plutonium for military needs, with new Russian reactors of the light water type. These do not produce plutonium and are considered more efficient for utilization for peaceful purposes. As IZVESTIYA has managed to learn, Deputy Atomic Energy Minister Viktor Sidorenko told Gallucci we are ready to supply such a reactor.

The idea of replacing the North Korean reactor with Russia's help arose several months ago. The Americans are discussing it with Japan and South Korea. It is suggested that such an option for settling the nuclear crisis could be extremely promising.

The Russian nuclear industry is in a lamentable state, and cooperation with the DPRK would make it possible to partially resolve its financial problems. Delivery of the Russian reactor to the DPRK could be financed by

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Japan or South Korea. At current prices the cost of the entire project, the Ministry of Atomic Energy estimates, could exceed $1.5 billion.

While in Moscow the Americans have also shown interest in the possibility of the processing and storage of spent fuel from North Korean reactors. The DPRK holds on to its waste and conceals its extent from the IAEA. This reinforces suspicions that the North Koreans are concealing a large batch of plutonium produced from this waste and intend to manufacture a nuclear bomb from it. [Piatkovskiy ends]

A South Korean Defense Ministry spokesman has stated that talks are taking place with Russia on purchasing Russian weapons toward offsetting Moscow's 1.5-billion [currency not specified] debt.

In Moscow this report was greeted with some surprise and even skepticism. "No talks are currently taking place with South Korea on this subject," a high-ranking Foreign Ministry spokesman told IZVESTIYA.

A year ago now Russia proposed repaying its debt to South Korea in weapons, but there was no enthusiasm for the idea in Seoul. The Koreans want to to be supplied with strategic raw materials, which is impossible for Moscow since it must first meet its commitments to Russia's Paris Club creditors.

Russian experts believe that this expression of readiness to buy unspecified Russian weapons is most likely yet another attempt to exert pressure on the new North Korean leadership.

Following Kim Il-song's death Seoul has toughened its attitude to the DPRK. As a condition for the resumption of dialogue Seoul unexpectedly demanded the release of South Koreans whom Seoul believes were seized by North Korean intelligence agents. The world was shown a North Korean defector who stated that Pyongyang has five nuclear bombs.

Instead of nudging new leader Kim Chong-il and his comparatively young team toward negotiations, contacts with the outside world, and compromise, South Korea has started a new round of "cold war" against Pyongyang.

North Korean contacts with the Americans have always caused unconcealed anger in the South. Now too South Korea seems to have set itself the objective of preventing the resumption of U.S. talks with Pyongyang.

ROK To Buy Arms Worth at Least $100 Million

MK0508073294 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Aug 94 p 4

[AP report under the "In Brief" rubric: "Payment With Arms"]

[Text] South Korea, the Renkhap [as transcribed] news agency reported yesterday, has agreed to accept from Russia, in lieu of repayment of part of its $1.47 billion debt, high-tech arms such as jet fighter planes and rockets. A Russian military-industrial complex spokesman, who wished to remain anonymous, has advised that the upcoming contract has been estimated to be worth at least $100 million. Before this, South Korea bought arms mainly from the United States and declined military imports from the Russian Federation because, experts believe, the Russian and American systems were incompatible. However, Seoul has recently announced that it may buy arms from Moscow with the aim of studying the military capability of the DPRK [Democratic People's Republic of Korea] whose army is virtually fully equipped with Russian arms and hardware.

Moscow Denies High-Level Taiwanese Contacts

LD0308151194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1352 GMT 3 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Vladimir Solntsev]

[Text] Moscow, August 3 (TASS)—The Russian Foreign Ministry has denied any contacts between Taiwanese officials and Russian top representatives, the Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman told ITAR- TASS on Wednesday.

At the same time, the spokesman did not rule out that the Taiwanese deputies, who are participating in the World Freedom and Democracy League (the former World Anti-Communist League) chaired by former Moscow Mayor Gavriil Popov, can meet with some Russian law-makers.

Any contacts between Taiwanese officials and leaders of other countries, who do not have diplomatic relations with Taipei, invariably evoke protests from China. Beijing considers such meetings as indirect recognition of Taiwan as an independent state, when Beijing considers it an integral part of China.

In this context, the high-ranking Russian diplomat said that the World Freedom and Democracy League, in which Taiwan plays an active role, is registered as an international non-governmental organisation. According to him, the Russian Foreign Ministry does not regard the league's conference as an event organised by the Taiwanese, and Russia is not taking any part in its work at an official level. The Taiwanese participants in the forum, including president of the league Zhao Zi-qi, who is an adviser to Li Teng-hui, head of the Taiwanese administration, are being received in Moscow at an unofficial level.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Political Issues

Filatov Asks Leaders To Avert 'Social Explosion'

LD0408163694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1549 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Alexandrova]

[Text] Moscow August 4 TASS—The situation at Russian enterprises is now even worse than in 1921, although politically the situation in the country as a whole has calmed down, according to Yeltsin's chief of staff Sergey Filatov.

According to him, the irreconcilable opposition is likely to take advantage of this situation and provoke a social explosion in autumn. Filatov called on local and central bodies of representative authority and executive power to continue active constructive work, including legislative, in order to block the destructive efforts.

Filatov was speaking after today's conference which brought together the leaders of the executive and representative bodies of power from 15 regions of the Russian Federation to discuss problems of law-making in component parts of the Russian Federation.

According to Filatov, stabilisation in society began with the signing of an agreement on public accord in society. The president's message to the Federal Assembly helped "our rapprochement with the State Duma and the Federation Council (the two chambers of the Russian federal legislature)" so that "for all the difficulties, differences and various ambitions, we have been able to find a common language and to work on", Filatov said. "steady work is now the chief leit-motif of all power structures", Yeltsin's chief of staff declared.

Nonetheless, the positive process can be disrupted by "the irreconcilable opposition who are hatching plans for provoking, jointly with trade unions, a large-scale striking movement in autumn", he warned.

There are two major problems which need solution in order not to prevent a social explosion; the problem of non-payments and the situation at enterprises".

According to Sergey Filatov, a memorandum has been prepared to advise the president on further measures in pursuance of his decrees mandating the mutual debt settlement among enterprises. The problem can be solved if both the government and the regions grapple with it in a comprehensive manner, he said.

The situation at enterprises, according to the analysts and experts who compared it to that which existed in 1921, is even worse in some respects than seventy-odd years ago. For a number of reasons Russia in those years did not encounter the non-payment problem it is facing now. In 1921, Russia had good financial discipline. Its mechanism of bankruptcies functioned smoothly and a system of promissory notes existed. While at present, according to experts and analysts "the state of financial documentation" at enterprises is appalling, which leads to the criminalisation of the economy.

According to Sergey Filatov, one of the reasons for the lamentable state of affairs is the desire of many enterprise managers to evade taxes.

He urged representatives of Russian regions to step up constructive efforts because this approach is the only convincing argument in favour of the powers-to-be in the eyes of the population.

Zhirinovskiy, Borovoy Start Presidential Campaign

LD0508092994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2320 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Yekaterinburg, 5 Aug—Vladimir Zhirinovskiy and Konstantin Borovoy announced the start of their fight for the presidential chair in Yekaterinburg on Thursday. They held a debate in the local drama theater which more than 500 people paid 50,000 rubles to attend. It will be shown on local television today.

Judging by the applause, the Liberal Democratic Party leader [Zhirinovskiy] won the first round. The audience did not, on the whole, accept the statements made by Borovoy on the value of "a free economy based on the Western model" or his assessment of Russia as "backward" and needing help. On the other hand, Zhirinovskiy's well-known opinions on his "belief in the Russian people" and in the "creative power of Russia" were welcomed and applauded. However, the politicians said nothing new, agreeing in their criticism of the current authorities.

Government Approves Compensation for Nazi Victims

LD0508062394 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1200 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Liliya Kuznetsova]

[Text] Moscow, 4 Aug—The Russian Government has specified the conditions and procedure for the payment of compensation to citizens of the former USSR who were subjected to Nazi persecution during the Great Fatherland War.

The statute [polozheniye] on the conditions and procedure for the payments, which was approved on 2 August, points out that the compensation payments will be made from funds provided by the Federal Republic of Germany. The document stipulates the categories of people entitled to receive compensation. They are former inmates of concentration camps, prisons, ghettos, and labor camps, and also those who were forcibly taken from the territory of the former USSR to forced labor in Germany, its allied countries, or the occupied states of western Europe. Compensation is to be refused to those

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

who voluntarily went off to work in Germany and those who committed crimes against their homeland or mankind. The amount of the compensatory payments is to be set, taking account of these categories and the length of the individual's stay in Nazi captivity.

The document points out that the payments will be calculated in German marks, and their basic amount is to be made up of an initial sum depending on the category to which the recipient belongs and a sum consisting of a minimum monthly payment of 10 marks for each month in captivity multiplied by the number of months' stay in places of forced confinement. It also stipulates additional payments for people who were subjected to medical experiments.

To receive compensatory payments, it is necessary to apply with the necessary documents to local social protection bodies. The payments will be made in rubles or in hard currency through the Mutual Understanding and Reconciliation Foundation's system of banks or the Russian Federation Sberbank system.

Government Sets Aside R1 Trillion for Harvest

LD0408162794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1119 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] The Russian Government told local authorities on August 3 to mobilize resources to ensure a successful harvesting campaign.

The government commission for financial policies was authorized to allocate 1 trillion rubles [R] in August for the harvest and was told to consider allocating 2 trillion rubles for the third quarter of 1994.

The government told regional authorities and the Roskhlebproduct association to organize the buying of agricultural products at approximate procurement prices. The government said priority should be given to products sold by private farmers.

Russian regions agreed to establish the average level of the procurement prices at about 217,000 rubles per tonne.

Zaveryukha: No Alternative to Agricultural Reform

MK0408131894 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 4 Aug 94 p 3

[POSTFACTUM report: "There is no Alternative to a Policy of Reforming Agriculture"]

[Text] As Aleksandr Zaveryukha, vice premier of the Russian Federation, has stated, "15 to 20 percent of Russia's agricultural enterprises will go bankrupt by the end of 1994." These enterprises, according to him, will provide "the base for the organization and development of privately owned farms because there is no alternative to a policy of reforming agriculture." The vice premier has advised that the 6 trillion rubles set aside in the budget for purchases of grain grown in 1994 will pay for 60 to 70 percent of what the state needs. The balance will be purchased in the "process of grain turnover."

Economic Issues

MMM Leader Detained 'in Solitary Confinement'

LD0508063894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0603 GMT 5 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Aug—Sergey Mavrodi, head of the MMM joint- stock company, has been detained as a suspect and is being held in a solitary confinement cell of Russia's tax police department, an ITAR-TASS correspondent has just been told by an official spokesman of Russia's tax police.

Tax Police Explain Detention Order

LD0508082894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0715 GMT 5 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow August 5 TASS—President of the "MMM" investment company Sergey Mavrodi was detained late on Thursday on suspicion of tax evasion and is currently kept in an investigation prison, TASS was told on Friday by Nikolay Medvedev, an official representative of the tax police.

Mavrodi and his brother Vyacheslav, who is vice-president of the "MMM", were detained after a search of the apartment of "MMM" president in downtown Komsomolskiy Avenue. Vyacheslav Mavrodi was released after questioning.

Medvedev explained that Sergey Mavrodi was detained not because of the scandal with the "MMM" investment company, but in connection with the activities of the closed joint stock company "Invest- Consulting" which he also heads.

According to Russian legislation, a suspect can be detained without facing charges for not more than 72 hours. However, President Boris Yeltsin has recently decreed that those suspected of organised crime can be detained for 30 days.

Tax Police Seize MMM Documents

LD0408142894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1331 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yelena Gorelova]

[Text] Moscow, 4 Aug—This evening officials of the Tax Police Department of the Russian Federation have started confiscating the financial documents of the "MMM" joint-stock company on 41 Komsomolskiy Prospekt, where this firm is registered and where Sergey Mavrodi, president of "MMM", has his apartment.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Nikolay Medvedev, head of the press service of the Tax Police Department, told ITAR-TASS that Mavrodi himself was at home. According to reports at 1720, the operation of confiscating the documents is going on and the "MMM" president will not let anyone into his apartment.

MMM Bomb Scare Proves To Be 'False Alarm'

LD0408160794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1342 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] The bomb scare at MMM central office in southern Moscow proved to be false alarm, officials in the company's press center told the Financial Information Agency. Law enforcement agents found no explosive device in the building.

The commission handling the purchase of MMM shares and the company's officials resumed work about 90 minutes after the report of the anonymous telephone call reached them and people were evacuated from the building. The situation inside and outside the building remains calm.

MMM President Orders Exchanges Closed

LD0408161394 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1540 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 4 Aug—Criminal proceedings have been instituted against Sergey Mavrodi, president of the MMM joint-stock company. He is accused of the concealment of particularly large amounts of income. This was reported here today by a spokesman for the tax police.

Mavrodi refused to open the door to police personnel who arrived this evening at his apartment. They had to use force and break open the door. The apartment is at present being searched on the authority of the procurator.

An ITAR-TASS correspondent learned that this evening Mavrodi issued an instruction for all Russian exchange points of the MMM joint-stock company to be closed.

Stock Exchange Official Blames Government for MMM Situation

LD0408205194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1835 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] The situation in the Russian stock market, including the MMM affair must be blamed on government bodies, said Deputy Chairman of the Securities and Stock Exchanges Commission at the office of the RF President Dmitriy Vasiliyev. He was speaking at a news conference in Moscow on Thursday.

Vasiliyev said a number of government bodies controlling the market of securities, such as the Finance Ministry, the State Anti- Trust Committee, the Central Bank of the Russian Federation and the State Property Committee are not interested in real changes in the Russian stock market.

"It is these structures that are to blame for the fact that the presidential decrees 'On the Protection of the Interests of Investors' and 'On Advertising' failed to establish specific rules to control the market of securities," Vasiliyev said.

About the situation involving the MMM joint stock company Vasiliyev said that the securities commission insisted on the suspension of its activity until comprehensive auditing of the company was over.

"The Finance Ministry has enough powers to do that. Instead the Finance Ministry has invited Mavrodi to discuss the MMM problem," Vasiliyev said. He also remarked that as long as the state was unable to cope with its function of controlling the stock market rows similar to the MMM affair would repeat.

At the same time Vasiliyev said that the state must not interfere in the situation in the market of securities, but confine itself to formulating stock market legislation. As for the control of adherence to those rules, it must be placed in the hands of the participants in the market of securities proper.

Vasiliyev proposed easing government control of the market of securities and suggested putting up for sale at an early date the packages of privatized enterprises that were declared state property.

"That would give the people a chance to invest into attractive enterprises in the oil, defence and metallurgical industries," Vasiliyev said.

Energy Ministry Prepares New Agreement With Oil Exporters

LD0408180794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1601 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] The Russian Fuel and Energy Ministry has drafted an agreement with special oil and petroleum product exporters for government contracts.

The document states that the ministry will coordinate prices with producers and exporters for oil exported under government contracts. Industry experts said that the measures are being taken because oil prices have not been coordinated to determine the amount special exporters will contribute to a special investment fund. All payments with oil transporting organizations will be carried out after hard currency export revenues are received.

Remaining hard currency revenues will be transferred to a special account in Imperial Bank which will finance investment programs.

A source at the Fuel and Energy Ministry told the Petroleum Information Agency that if the exporter and

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

producer do not agree on the price for oil bought for export to foreign countries under government contracts, the Ministry will possibly set a fixed price or allow the producer export oil through another special exporter.

Oil exports for government contracts in 1994 in Russia will be handled by eight exporters registered with the Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations— Nizhnevolzhneft, Lukoil, Balkar Trading, Nafta-Moskva, Konex, Yugraimpex, Gosinkor, and Permneft.

Military & Space Issues

Military Plane Crashes in Chita Oblast

LD0508060494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0555 GMT 5 Aug 94

[Text] Moscow, 5 Aug (ITAR-TASS)—Forty-seven people were killed this morning as the result of an AN-12 military transport airplane accident this morning. The airplane crashed on its landing approach in the vicinity of the Boda (Chita oblast) military air field, sources in the Russian Ministry of Defense told the ITAR-TASS correspondent.

Special Commission To Investigate

LD0508064494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0620 GMT 5 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Aug—At 0345 Moscow time [2345 GMT 4 August] this morning an AN-12 military transport plane of the Russian Federation Air Force crashed on its landing approach at the airport of Boda in the Baykal region. All the passengers on board—39 servicemen, two members of their family and six crew members—died, Colonel-General Viktor Kot, temporary acting commander-in- chief of the Russian Federation Air Force, told the ITAR-TASS correspondent.

He said that the plane flew from Chita to Dzhida (Baykal region) where the servicemen boarded it and it continued its flight in the direction of Boda airport. It crashed into the ground at a distance of 4,740 meters from the extreme edge of the landing strip. The pilot of the plane was First Class Pilot Captain Sushkov.

A specially created commission headed by General Viktor Kot left Moscow at 1100 to investigate the cause of the accident.

Engine Problems May Have Caused Crash

LD0508091094 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0820 GMT 5 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Fomin]

[Text] Chita, 5 Aug—The Chita Oblast headquarters for emergency situations has informed an ITAR-TASS correspondent that the engine ignition on approaching the air field at the settlement of Boda, which is approximately 200 km from Chita, is the probable reason for today's crash of the AN-12 military-transport plane, which resulted in the deaths of all 47 people on board.

The plane was on the route Dzhida (Buryatia) - Boda - Domna (a suburb of Chita) - Chita. On board were a group of officers on their way to their new postings and to a meeting of the Air Force military council in the Baykal Military District. There were three women and six crewmembers among the victims.

Army search parties on the ground are working on the site of the crash. Bad weather makes rescue work difficult; it is pouring with rain, and all the roads have become impassable. For this reason, for the time being an operational group from the District's Air Force headquarters cannot fly to the site of the crash to carry out an investigation. According to the meteorological service, the cyclone will persist over the area of the crash for a further 24-48 hours. Communications with Boda have been lost, and only army communications are working. It is possible that a commission will go to Boda by train this evening. They will take zinc coffins with them.

Cosmos-2286 Satellite Launched

LD0508073094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0718 GMT 5 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anna Bakina]

[Text] Moscow 5 Aug (TASS)— The Russian space military forces fired off a Cosmos-2286 satellite with the Molnia booster rocket from the 16th launching pad at the Plesetsk cosmodrome.

ITAR-TASS learnt at the press centre of the Russian Space Military Forces that the launching was successful. The spacecraft was put into orbit close to the calculated one.

The launching was made in the interests of the Russian Defence Ministry. This is the second military satellite fired off this week.

Smolensk, Kolsk AES Workers Continue Protest

LD0408192894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1342 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Protest actions by employees of the Smolensk and Kolsk nuclear power stations continued today. Employees refuse to leave their work place, the Rosenergoatom state concern told Interfax. The employees are demanding the payment of consumer debt. They also demanded that outstanding wage payment be made and that a governmental commission be created to deal with the problems of the nuclear energy industry.

A member of the coordinating committee at the Smolensk Nuclear Power Station Mikhail Safrygin told

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Interfax that 350 employees are taking part in the action. He said they intend to continue their action until their demands are met.

Rosenergoatom said that a complex situation had also emerged at the Balakov Nuclear Power Station (Saratov Region, Povolzhye) where all energy blocks may be switched off as a result of non-payments and a lack of resources. The three VVER-1000 reactors at the station are now working at limited capacity. Rosenergoatom said that other Russian nuclear power stations were in a similar situation.

Commenting on the situation at nuclear power stations, Anatoliy emskov of Rosenergoatom said that the Russian Government must take urgent measures in order to overcome the crisis since such a situation could lead to uncontrollable developments in the nuclear power industry.

Zemskov said that the situation in the industry is expected to be discussed during a meeting headed by Russian First Vice Premier Oleg Soskovets in Moscow on August 9.

Russia Leads in Number of Nuclear-Powered Submarines Built

MM0408132194 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Aug 94 p 2

["Briefing for Readers" by Vitaliy Moroz, Vladimir Matyash, and Stanislav Telegin: "Who Is Competent To Build Nuclear Submarines"]

[Text] How many nuclear submarines have been built in total worldwide? Who is the leader in this?

[signed] Nikolay Parshutin, Krasnodar Kray.

Atomic submarine building has been under way for almost 40 years now. Since 1955, when the United States developed the world's first nuclear-powered submarine, and until early 1994, 464 nuclear submarines of various kinds had been built at shipyards in five countries.

More than one-half of them—243—have been built at Russian enterprises: 123 in Severodvinsk, 56 at Komsomolsk-na-Amure, 39 in St. Petersburg, and 25 in Nizhniy Novgorod. In this period the United States built 179 submarines at seven shipyards (86 of them at Groton and 49 at Newport News). Britain's shipbuilders have commissioned 24 nuclear submarines (21 were built at Barrow-in-Furness and three at Birkenhead). The French built all their 12 nuclear submarines in Cherbourg, while China's six nuclear submarines were built at Hulongdao.

World submarine building peaked in the 1960's-1980's.

Federal Assembly

Duma Presses for Hefty Subsidies to Agriculture

MK0308093694 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 3 Aug 94 p 2

[Aleksandr Bekker report in the "Harvest" column: "The Duma Advises the Government to Step on a Rake. Ivan Rybkin Proposes Covering the Peasants' 'Socially Necessary Expenses'"]

[Text] Just before summer recess the State Duma issued a decree, "On Conditions and Procedures for Organizing and Financing Procurements of Agricultural Produce from the 1994 Harvest." The deputies expressed their regret over the fact that the Economy and Agriculture Ministries failed to implement the Cabinet of Ministers' February decree, and that therefore there is total uncertainty about the procurements: Harvesting is not being financed; peasants have not received their wages for months; and threshed grain is not being bought, with millions of tonnes of it lying on the threshing floor and rotting. Such an unseemly picture arouses in Ivan Rubkin, who signed the State Duma's decree, gloomy misgivings about the "utter ruin" of the producers. As a result, the state will be confronted "with the need to buy grain from abroad."

Apparently, the latter argument cannot really daunt the government: The country has successfully engaged in grain import since 1963, spending approximately $70 billion for the purpose. The financial irregularities described by the speaker do not tally with the government data: Half a month ago the Finance Ministry repaid the remaining debt to the countryside for the past year, and in early July, according to the premier's statement at the expanded Council of Ministers session, it remitted 1.5 trillion rubles for harvesting, promising just as much "before the end of the month." That is to say, the center is keeping its word within the framework of budget obligations. While rebuking the government, the State Duma seems to be unaware that in the current year it is buying only one-third of the planned grain volumes (for the army, northern regions, and so forth). The other two-thirds are being procured by regional authorities themselves, with these procurements financed from the federal budget under a separate item.

Nonetheless the State Duma "recommended" that within five days the Chernomyrdin cabinet define procedures for harvest procurements, ensuring "maximum observance of the parity of prices between agriculture and industry." This decision should be seen precisely as a recommendation because such a parity has developed as a result of market bargaining between the agrarians and the industrialists, with the government being the odd man out.

The government of Russia, just like of any country, may establish minimum guaranteed prices for agricultural produce but it is incapable, as Rybkin is demanding, of compelling these prices to "cover socially necessary expenses." Because there are no such expenses in a market economy: They only exist in a socialist economy. No one in the USSR really knew how to count these "socially necessary expenses," and therefore the State Price Committee automatically calculated losses from cattle breeders' drunkenness, spoiled equipment, and overconsumption of fuel. "If the price of our grain has reached world prices while wages in the countryside constitute on average one-tenth of western farmers' earnings, where does the difference go then?" Finance

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Minister Boris Fedorov was repeatedly asking Vice Premier Aleksandr Zaveryukha last year. At the time Zaveryukha evaded the question, and Vice Premier Fedorov had to leave the government.

The cause for their discord however remained. The agrarian lobby squeezed from the government an agreement on buying grain at 70,000 rubles per tonne with monthly indexation of 10 percent, while commodity exchange prices at the time were 45,000 rubles. Minister Fedorov was hard put to argue that such expenditures are not stipulated in the budget, and that to sign the agreement means to burden oneself with a debt for which the agrarians will later on persecute the government. This is precisely what has happened.

In recommending now that the government buy the entire harvest and also agree "with the producers about the level of guaranteed minimum prices," speaker Rybkin in effect is inviting the cabinet of ministers once again to step on a rake.

Committee Chair on Running State Duma's Work

MM0408160594 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 2 Aug 94 First Edition pp 1, 2

[Interview with Vladimir Bauer, chairman of the State Duma Committee for the Organization of the State Duma's Work, by Vladimir Klimov under the rubric "In the State Duma"; date and place not given: "Season of Removals and Time of Changes"—first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] The State Duma building is under scaffolding. It is not only the facade that is being renovated. Inside, you could be in a railroad terminus: Safes, furniture, computers, and fax machines are being carried about, moved, and shifted. Chaos rules in the offices. I talked with Vladimir Bauer, chairman of the Committee for the Organization of the State Duma's Work, in a half-lit corridor crammed with cupboards, tables, and chairs.

[Klimov] Much has been written about the results of the State Duma's activity as a whole. But virtually nothing has been said about the results of the organization of its work over the six months. What is your opinion on this matter, Vladimir Anatolyevich: What has been achieved, and where do you see the shortcomings?

[Bauer] Our committee, which includes representatives of all factions, defends the interests of deputies. It was proposed that our main task should be not in-house problems, but the organization of the Duma's internal activity and the legislative process and the creation of conditions for it—for example, by improving the apparatus structure and appointing its leading officials.

It is not our fault but our misfortune that we have not fully assimilated the functions of organizing legislation. Some people see our removals and disorganization as demonstrating some kind of malice on the part of the government and presidential structures. Emotionally, it is possible to understand the grievances. But analysis of our six months of activity has shown that all disorders have objective causes. The general awareness has not yet developed for it to be understood that the new parliament should work in conditions corresponding to its lofty purpose.

More attention began to be paid to our needs when the Duma made steps to meet the president and government half way by signing the Treaty on Accord and by ratifying the budget and the Law on the Constitutional Court.

You could say that our committee has made a definite contribution in this respect. We have many shortcomings, but the most important thing that we have achieved is to dispel animosity and irritability, clearing the air in the hall of sessions. The productivity of work in the Duma, which at first was lower than that of a steamer at 7.3 percent, increased in the final phase to 65 percent. These percentages represent time spent on legislation relative to the total length of the plenary sessions.

[Klimov] Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, assessing the half-year results of the Duma's work, said that it was and remains a "homeless vagrant." Your committee should be concerned with seeing that this is not the case....

[Bauer] I fear to exaggerate our committee's potential in the question of geographical relocation. That took two presidential edicts, a government decree, and the personal intervention of the prime minister. Our job now is to organize deputies' vital activity rationally.

We have managed to uphold certain standards. For example, each deputy should now have a work room to share with his aide. Some people consider this a privilege, but our committee believes that it is the lower limit of the essential level of security.

We have managed to get all the offices linked by computer network. Deputies will be able to access the general data base and obtain the information they need quickly. This is very important in legislative work.

We have managed to resolve the housing question. Deputies have been living in hotels for seven months. In late August or early September (thanks to the Moscow government) they will acquire modest official housing, which will enable them to be united with their families.

[Klimov] How are deputies' seats in the hall equipped now? In the Supreme Soviet a deputy could vote not only for himself, but also for others. Which, incidentally, did happen. Is everything still the same, or have things changed?

[Bauer] Unfortunately, the standing orders still do not forbid deputies to vote for absent colleagues. We are thinking right now about how to rule out this possibility.

The solution of the question does not lie only in the introduction of penalties. There are forces which push deputies into this kind of action. What do I mean? Above

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

all, the "quorum." For the Duma to work, 50 percent of the house plus one deputy more must be in the hall. High norms are set for constitutional laws, where two-thirds of the house must vote.

Yet in Finland, for example, there is no concept of a "quorum." There the norm for the adoption of a law is five-sixths, but of those who are present. However, the majority of deputies take their seats for the adoption of laws. They know that the eyes of the parties and the voters are on them. In addition, they have a fiscal system. There is a provision for depriving a deputy of his monetary allowance for absence without valid cause.

We once discussed the possibility of such an approach in the committee. The discussion provoked only ironic smiles.

[Klimov] You said that the ultimate success of deputies' work was in many ways secured by the marked agreement with the presidential and governmental structures. In this respect I would like to hear your opinion on the decision adopted by the Duma concerning Deputy Vladimir Petrovich Kvasov, leader of the government apparatus.

[Bauer] The examination in the Duma of questions connected with the actions of deputies is not a rare phenomenon. For example, the committee asked to see LDPR [Liberal Democratic Party of Russia] leader V. Zhirinovskiy in connection with the incident during the faction's visit to Nizhnyy Novgorod and the governor's complaint. There are other such examples.

The fact that all factions are represented on our committee enables us to adopt well-considered, objective decisions. Even Vladimir Volfovich agreed with the conclusions that he had been wrong (to visit the governor's office in his absence).

Before the incident involving V.P. Kvasov, which has become widely known, his name had already been heard, particularly in connection with the deputies' medical service. My negotiations with Vladimir Petrovich enabled the problem to be resolved efficiently at the time.

There were difficult questions regarding the housing of deputies in the CEMA building and the removal to downtown Moscow. But after all, all decisions over our relocation were adopted by the government. That is why deputies remembered Kvasov.

As is well known, several deputies were not admitted to the Kremlin for the government's expanded session. In response the Duma voted—in my view, on a surge of emotion—for V.P. Kvasov's dismissal from the post of leader of the government apparatus. From a human angle, it is possible to understand the deputies. But from the viewpoint of the standing orders and legal validity, such a decision was incorrect.

First, our standing orders and the Law on the Status of the Deputy provide for an appeal to the State Duma on the question of its giving its consent to a dismissal. No such appeal was received from Vladimir Petrovich's immediate boss.

Second, the ethical side of the case is that a person is always given the floor prior to the adoption of a decision connected with his fate. And Deputy Kvasov was deprived of this right.

Having received his petition, our committee sat twice. The first time was in his absence. We did not adopt a decision at this session. At the second session we asked Deputy Kvasov the questions which interested us, and received exhaustive replies. The committee adopted a decision worded—I have it here—as follows:

"The State Duma Council is requested:

"1. To give a hearing on this question at one of its sessions to State Duma Deputy V.P. Kvasov and to a representative of the Committee for the Organization of the State Duma's Work.

"2. To include on the agenda of the State Duma session the question of reviewing the State Duma's decision of 15 July 1994, Protocol No. 89, regarding State Duma Deputy V.P. Kvasov, leader of the Russian Federation government apparatus. Provision is to be made for Deputy V.P. Kvasov to present the relevant explanations at the State Duma's plenary session...."

In this decision we ask the Duma chairman to request the president to allow deputies unimpeded access to the Kremlin, which is a state institution.

I think that Vladimir Petrovich, as a deputy, is protected by our standing orders and by the Law on the Status of the Deputy. The question of V.P. Kvasov will be examined in the fall session.

[Klimov] What are the prospects for your committee's activity in the future?

[Bauer] Man is so made that he expects to begin a new life from Monday. Right now this "Monday" is for us linked with October. Committee members hope to get closer to the fulfillment of their obligations as deputies rather than to fulfillment of their in-house obligations. We have proposed, for example, that the Duma Council instruct the committee to coordinate deputies' foreign visits. After all, a foreign visit is not an outing but an education, the establishment of the Russian parliamentarian in the eyes of those whom he meets.

And our standing orders? Although they are substantially different from the old ones in the Supreme Soviet, in their decrepit formulations they are sometimes reminiscent of the 1989-1991 period. Some things have been regulated exhaustively, but there are also large gaps. Qualitively composed standing orders are the basis of fruitful work on the part of the Duma. Improving the standing orders is our task, and we will tackle it.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

If we manage to implement our plans, if mundane problems recede into the background, the ice between parliament and the voters, which has remained from the times of the Supreme Soviet, will begin to thaw. As deputies we should obtain the real trust of the people.

Regional Affairs

Dudayev Chairs Chechen Military Council Session

LD0408134794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1315 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Moscow August 4 ITAR-TASS—The Chechen authorities are alerted to the situation in the republic's northern regions neigbouring on Russia, where, as they believe, "the Russian leadership plans to commit a series of large-scale acts of provocation".

The situation in the regions was discussed by today's closed-door meeting of the Military Council of the Chechen supreme command, held in Groznyy. It was chaired by Dzhokhar Dudayev.

The official news agency CHECHENPRESS cited a representative of the headquarters, Colonel Merzhuyev, as saying that the Chechen leadership focuses on the republic's north regions, in particular Naur and Shelkov, which are between Groznyy and the Stavropol territory.

The Nadterechny region, also located in the north of the republic and bordering on the Naur region, is the main base of Umar Avturkhanov, the leader of the oppositional Interim Council of Chechnya, who declared Dudayev deposed earlier this week.

Chechen Parliament Says Leadership in Full Control

LD0408133994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1314 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Moscow August 4 TASS—The parliament of the Chechen republic urged Moscow to settle the conflict with Groznyy only by way of negotiations and warned that in the event of a "settlement by force" the Russian side would be fully responsible for it.

"Only an equal and constructive political dialogue for which our side is always ready, may stabilize the situation in Russia and in the Chechen republic," the CHECHENPRESS official news agency reported from Groznyy today quoting the statement by the parliament of the republic sent to the Federal Assembly of Russia.

Chechen parliamentarians were puzzled, as they said, by the fact that "the Russian leadership in alliance with the so-called 'Chechen opposition' and leaders of bandit groups are planning to overthrow the legally elected power in Chechnya".

Members of the Chechen parliament characterized the present problems in the republic as difficulties of the transition period. The situation in the republic remains stable and is fully controlled by the leadership, the statement of the Chechen parliament says.

Interior Minister Pledges Support for Dudayev

LD0408150694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1410 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sharip Aushev]

[Text] Groznyy, 4 Aug—The Interior Ministry of the Chechen Republic is "willing to defend until the end" President Dzhokhar Dudayev. Recently appointed Interior Minister Ayub Satuyev said this on local television. He described Umar Avtorkhanov and his allies from the Interim Council as "traitors on whom a bloody revenge should be declared."

Other programs on local television and radio, as well as the newspapers, are also pouring out similar opinions on the opposition from Nadterechnyy rayon today. True, people here are hardly going to be allowed to say anything different: the Groznyy authorities exert tough control over the mass media.

On the surface, the stir surrounding Chechnya is completely missing inside the republic itself. Enterprises and institutions are working as usual.

It is expected that Dzhokhar Dudayev will hold a news conference this evening for the Russian and foreign journalists who have piled into Groznyy in recent days.

Dudayev Cites 'Incidents' on Chechen Border

LD0408154894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1449 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Batyrev]

[Text] Moscow August 4 TASS—Dzhokhar Dudayev, the president of the break-away republic of Chechnya, is prepared to travel to Moscow at the invitation of certain "socio-political forces", if the Russian leadership does not intend to hinder his trip.

Speaking in a telephone interview with ITAR-TASS on Thursday, Dudayev refused to specify exactly which "forces" had issued him the invitation.

"I accepted the invitation, but now the question of the Russian government's attitude towards that has arisen", Dudayev said. "It is unclear whether I am 'persona non grata' (in Russia), or if there is official permission for my arrival in Moscow".

According to Dudayev, "that question can be decided only by the president of Russia".

In the interview, the Chechen president answered calmly, with laconic, short, military-like replies. "There are not any disorders, any demonstrations, or any conflicts on the territory of the Chechen Republic", he announced. "But there are forces who would like to see

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

that. They are in Moscow, and some of them have already arrived here". "Chechnya is stable. There is a criminal element, but there is no political opposition here", the Chechen president said.

Commenting on the statement made by the opposition Provisional Council, which declared that Dudayev had been removed and that the council was assuming power, Dudayev said that Umar Avturkhanov, the council's leader, "could declare himself to be the president of Russia, or the emperor of Japan. How would you react to that?".

"We asked the Russian law enforcement bodies to return all criminals to us, not just Avturkhanov", Dudayev said. "But the Russian prosecutor-general's office is not saying a word. They refuse to have any contacts with us".

Dudayev reported that he had called a closed military meeting on Thursday, at which the participants discussed "Russian threats and blackmail". "Decisions have been taken to strengthen the military regime, hold training sessions, take control of all the republic's borders, and prevent the possible import of weapons and penetration by Russian subversive forces". "There have been incidents on the border", according to Dudayev.

Asked how he imagined the future of relations between Russia and Chechnya, the president replied that his position remained "unchanged". However, he refused to clearly explain that position, saying that "Russia is not ready to enter into any negotiations or resolve any diplomatic or legal questions".

Chechen Border Troops' Concentration Claims Denied

LD0408163794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1342 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Lieutenant-Colonel Yuriy Kosolapov, commander of the North Caucasian interior troops district, has described as an invention reports by Groznyy concerning the concentration of Russian troops near the Chechen border.

In an exclusive telephone interview with Interfax he said that by exaggerating the "Russian threat" the authorities were attempting to distract public attention from social and political problems.

Kosolapov said that he had received no orders to redeploy troops to the Chechen border. All units are on base and some of them involved in maintaining the state of emergency in the Prigorodnyy district in North Ossetia.

According to Kosolapov, the situation on the border with Chechnya on the whole is stable. There is no movement of Chechen armed units nor is there any concentration along the border, he said.

He said that all statements about a "Russian threat" from Groznyy was pure propaganda.

Chechen Opposition Calls For Support for Mamadayev

LD0408154794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1438 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sharip Aushev]

[Text] Groznyy, 4 Aug—The "Gulam" sociopolitical association has called on Chechens to unite around the "single lawful government of national trust (meaning Dudayev opponent Yaragi Mamadayev—ITAR-TASS note) and thereby restore constitutional order to Chechnya".

A statement released by the leadership of this organization today says that "Gulam" members have discussed the statement of the Russian Government on the situation in Chechnya and come to the conclusion that, despite the clear objectivity of many of its assessments, the document "reflects the attempts of certain reactionary forces in Russia to deepen the split in Chechen society."

Commenting on his statement, the association's leader, Mustafa Edelbiyev, told an ITAR-TASS correspondent that, together with other parties and movements, "Gulam" is now working to convoke a congress of the Chechen people. Only by aiming, he stressed, for agreement and peace in the Republic itself, can the so-called Chechen question be settled. Any other methods could provoke unforeseeable consequences.

Assessing the moves by Umar Avtorkhanov's Interim Council, Edelbiyev said that "attempts of this sort to bring pressure to bear on Dzhokhar Dudayev through threats of force from outside will only strengthen his regime and give him new political dividends."

Intelligence Services Reject Chechen Accusations

LD0408124994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1105 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Nechayev]

[Text] Moscow, 4 Aug—"Absurd" is the unanimous comment by the press secretaries of the Federal Counterintelligence Service (FCS) and the Foreign Intelligence Service (FIS) on the statement by the Chechen authorities which accused them of using "many billions for bribing the heads of Chechnya's rayon power structures and the commanders of units of the republic's armed forces."

The official agency CHECHENPRESS also reported today, with reference to the republic's state security department, that "in accordance with the large-scale plan to destabilize the situation in Chechnya, the FCS and FIS are planning to transfer weapons and military hardware by air to predetermined locations on the territory of Chechnya."

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

"The absurdity is compounded" by the fact that the FIS does not operate on Russian territory and is not interested in Chechnya, Tatyana Samolis—the press secretary of the FIS director—told the ITAR-TASS correspondent.

"One could put it even more bluntly, but I agree with what my Foreign Intelligence colleague said, FIS official representative Vladimir Tomarovskiy added in an interview to the ITAR-TASS correspondent.

He denied the Chechen state security statement which claimed that Russian special troops would be used under the guise of nonexistent opposition detachments in Chechnya.

CHECHENPRESS also reported that Sultan Geliskhanov, head of the republic's state security, is closely following the activities of FCS and FIS and added that "no one will succeed in bribing Chechen officers."

Shakhray Views Political Solution for Chechnya

LD0408174894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1526 GMT 4 Aug 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature: compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy; edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Russian Vice Premier Sergey Shakhray told Interfax today that free elections and the conclusion of a power-sharing treaty with Russia were part of a possible political solution to the problems of Chechnya, a break-away republic in southern Russia.

He said he believed that the Chechen people would be able to tackle their problems themselves, adding that they must be given support from their neighbors together with the Russian government and people. He stressed the importance of settling the problem by peaceful means.

He said that the Russian government's priority was putting an end to crime in the Caucasus along with restoring civil rights and the Russian constitution. "If this is a forceful plan then it is a peaceful force," Shakhray said.

Shakhray said that there will be no official response to Groznyy's demand to extradite the Chechen opposition leader Umar Avturkhanov and that Moscow will not consider this issue.

When asked about future developments in Chechnya, Shakhray said that a political "critical mass" will be created there which will force the settlement of the problem by free democratic elections and will lead to Dudayev's resignation.

He said this was the only way for a peaceful solution and that no time should be wasted.

Chechnya's Mamadayev Urges 'Restraint' From Cossacks

LD0408145794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1350 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Groznyy, 4 Aug—Yaragi Mamadayev, head of the government of national trust of Chechnya, has called for the Cossacks to be prudent and display restraint in the tense situation in the northern Caucasus. An appeal issued by him today to local Cossacks says that "provocative stunts and loud propaganda on the part of certain political forces in and around Chechnya must not and cannot cancel out the centuries of friendship between highlanders and Cossacks, the good traditions of friendship."

There have been many attempts in the course of history to drive a wedge between the Chechens and the Cossacks, the appeal notes, but each one was smashed against the granite of prudence, mutual respect, and trust of our fathers and grandfathers. Present-day desires to sow the seeds of hatred and dissension in the Caucasus also have no future.

Yaragi Mamadayev is sure that there will be sensible politicians and wise Cossack atamans not only in the republics of the northern Caucasus but also in Stavropol, Kuban, and Volgograd, who will not allow the situation to get out of control. Cossacks and highlanders, the appeal says, today need not conflict but the closest possible cooperation in building the best economic, socio-political and simply human relations. "Only through joint efforts is it possible to combat the region's rampant crime effectively. This is the only way we will be able to build and make beautiful our common home—the Caucasus," the head of Chechnya's government of national trust emphasized.

Khasbulatov Warns Cossacks Against Action in Chechnya

LD0408124294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1117 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Former chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet, now presenting himself as "a corresponding member of the Russian Academy of Sciences and professor" Ruslan Khasbulatov warned the Cossacks of Russia's southern regions against "spur of the moment decisions" and called on them to take balanced steps concerning the developments in and around Chechnya.

In his address made public in Moscow on Thursday, Khasbulatov said that ruling circles were attempting to involve the Cossacks in a "dangerous conflict" with the Chechen people. Khasbulatov said that the situation had been caused by what he called the Dzhokhar Dudayev factor. He described Dudayev as a KGB agent who was dismissed from the Air Force due to mental disorders.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Khasbulatov said that today the Chechen people looked on Dudayev as their mortal enemy and added that nothing could save his regime. Meanwhile, Khasbulatov said that the Chechen people have enough common sense, wisdom and courage to stand up for "our Cossack brothers" and representatives of other nations living in the Chechen Republic.

Khasbulatov urged the Cossack community to reject all forms of military interference in the Chechen Republic, where, he said, "common sense and goodwill will take the upper hand".

Dudayev, Labazanov Cited on Standoff

MK0408104294 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian, 4 Aug 94, p 2

[Report by Yuriy Golotyuk under the "Chechnya" rubric: "Dzhokhar Dudayev Sees in the Opposition 'Ordinary Bandits.' Blood Feud as a Tool of Political Struggle"]

[Text] The tenor of statements that Groznyy officials and leaders of the Chechen opposition continue to exchange is growing increasingly sharp. However, the president of Chechnya claims as before there is simply no opposition in the republic. Talking to your SEGODNYA correspondent, Dzhokhar Dudayev was extremely categorical: "There is no opposition in Chechnya, either armed or political. There are ordinary criminals who have committed crimes both in regard to their own people and the peoples of the other states. Ordinary thieves, bandits whom Russia is using to destabilize the situation." The president claims that the government controls the situation in the entire republic.

For his part, Ruslan Labazanov, leader of the "Niyso" ("Justice") opposition movement whose armed detachments are in control of the town of Argun, claims that "at least half of the Chechen people with the exception of those whom Dudayev has managed to intimidate" are siding with him. As Mr. Labazanov has explained to your SEGODNYA correspondent, the "Niyso" movement's objective is "to return to the people the billions robbed by Dudayev, to restore justice in Chechnya." To Mr. Labazanov's mind, there are no longer any chances left for a peaceful removal of Dudayev from power. "We proposed to the president the holding of a 'roundtable,' in reply to which troops, tanks, and artillery were flung against us," Mr. Labazanov stated.

To all appearances, the Dudayev-Labazanov standoff will end in bloodshed. After the government troops made an attempt in the night of 13 June to forcibly disarm the opposition detachments, during which several dozen people died, according to some counts, the mechanisms of the blood-feud law went into operation—the law is still immutable in Chechnya. Incidentally, the three severed human heads displayed in a square in Groznyy, the picture of which was shown in the 1 August press conference by Anatoliy Kulikov, Russian Federation Deputy Internal Affairs Minister, were apparently connected with blood feud rather than with the fact that those people were helping to apprehend the terrorists. At least Ruslan Labazanov, who provided the newspaper with the published photograph, explained that those where his men captured by the government troops during the storming of the opposition headquarters. Following which the "blood feudists" allegedly paid ransom to the security forces for the captured men's release, shot and decapitated them.

Ingush President Favors Peaceful Settlement in Chechnya

LD0408125494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1137 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Nechayev]

[Text] Moscow August 4 TASS—Ingush president Ruslan Aushev favours peaceful settlement of the conflict in neigbouring Chechnya, Aushev's spokesman Kuresh Agasiyev told ITAR-TASS by telephone today.

The spokesman cited the Ingush leader's recent public statement that Chechnya is "our fraternal republic and we must do all we can to settle all problems with it only by peaceful means".

At the same time, Agasiyev denied Chechen media reports alleging that Aushev had said that if force were used to settle the conflict in Chechnya, he would be unable to restrain the people who have blood ties with ethnic Chechens from getting enmeshed in the conflict which could develop into a Caucasian war.

According to the spokesman, Aushev has refrained from judging the political situation in Chechnya or taking sides in its internal conflict. The president has never said whether he backs Dzhokhar Dudayev or the opposition, Agasiyev noted.

The Ingush leadership recalled that human rights are being violated not only in Chechnya but in the region of the Osset-Ingush conflict. "The interim administration (in the area) might react in the same way to facts of gross and mass infringement of human rights in the area of emergency, where Osset extremists have taken six Ingush people hostages in broad daylight," Agasiyev quoted the Ingush president as saying.

N. Ossetian Official Comments on Chechnya Situation

LD0408225394 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Recorded remarks by Vladimir Lozovoy, provisional governor of North Ossetia and Ingushetia; place and date not given; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The situation in Chechnya today is very complicated. It is because of the processes that were going on in

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

this republic for far too long. As you know, the Russian-speaking population is being ousted. They pour over here through the zone, through Mozdok, and from there all over Russia. Naturally, the government was concerned about this all this time. This destabilizing influence has also affected us in the emergency situation zone. We have been waiting for such a statement from the government for a long time. This situation should not be allowed to continue any longer.

Naturally, we were also affected by it. This is why we also had to issue a statement on this matter. Although the Chechen side denies these facts today, we did not invent them. We have stated this officially and have documentary proof to support our claim that there were provocations, there were flights over strategic installations. For some strange reason, a Chechen police post appears on the territory of the Ingush republic. Where previously our (?BTR) were passing, we now see a Chechen Shilka. You understand what a Shilka is. The question is: Why is it there? This is why we are concerned and worried about the destabilizing effects of the situation in Chechnya.

Stavropol Offical Denies Roundup of Chechens

LD0308214294 Moscow 2x2 Television in Russian 2055 GMT 3 Aug 94

[Text] A POSTFACTUM correspondent reports from Groznyy that the local authorities are getting concerned about rumors of widescale action being taken in Stavropol Kray to detain and arrest Chechen nationals. This is absolute nonsense and a fabrication, Viktor Polosmak, head of the law and order department of the Stavropol Kray administration, told POSTFACTUM in a telephone interview. According to him, nothing of a sort is taking place in the kray.

Stavropol Procuracy Accuses Chechnya of Destabilizing Area

LD0408185694 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Aug 94

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The procuracy of Stavropol Kray today made a statement that, among other things, condemns the actions by the Chechen Republic's official authorities aimed at destabilizing the situation in the multiethnic region of the North Caucasus.

However, the statement says that, despite the impediments by the Chechen side, the investigation of the June crime will be completed in the very near future and passed on to court.

As for the investigation of the incident at the Mineralnyye Vody airport at the end of July that resulted in the deaths of four women, a team of highly qualified investigators has been entrusted with it, the statement says.

Chechnya Denies Obstruction During Hostage Operation

LD0308125294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1152 GMT 3 Aug 94

[Text] Moscow, 3 Aug (ITAR-TASS)—Russian law enforcement agencies accused the Chechen Republic's Justice Ministry of incompetence and inability "to carry out the functions and tasks which are its responsibility." In a statement released Wednesday by the CHECHEN-PRESS agency the ministry denied accusations—which it believed originated in Moscow—that Groznyy created difficulties for the Russian secret services carrying out operations 28 July to free hostages at Mineralnyye Vody airport.

The statement maintains that despite claims to the contrary by the heads of the Russian law enforcement agencies, the Chechen authorities who received a report on the latest terrorist seizure of hostages on 28 July offered practical help to the Russian secret services. According to the document, a headquarters to help the Russian Federation law enforcement agencies was set up in the republic. Four helicopters with special groups on board were prepared. When it was confirmed that the terrorists were Chechens, a group of elders was prepared to hold talks with them.

The Justice Ministry asserts that all of Chechnya's offers were conveyed to the Russian Interior Ministry's Directorate for the Fight against Organized Crime. At the same time, the statement says, Groznyy suggested that Moscow should inform it about flights over the republic by Russian military helicopters engaged in the operation "so that coordinated actions may be taken." "Russia refused our services and suggestions and as a result innocent people died," the document notes.

It was stated at a 1 August news conference in Moscow that those leading the operation to free the hostages reported that Chechnya's Procurator General Usman Imayev warned that Chechen military forces would bring down any Russian aircraft or helicopter which crossed the republic's air border without written permission—for which, he admitted, there was no time.

The statement was signed "Minister of Justice and Procurator General of the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria" Usman Imayev. However, ITAR-TASS discovered from well-informed sources that the Chechen Republic Provisional Council, which is in opposition to President Dzhokhar Dudayev, appointed Bek Baskhanov as the new procurator general of the republic.

Hijack Gang Leader Sentenced to Death

LD0408125794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1236 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Styazhkin]

[Text] Pyatigorsk (Stavropol Territory) August 4 TASS—The court in Pyatigorsk has given the death

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

sentence to Magomed Bitsiyev, the leader of one of the groups of hijackers who have plagued this North Caucasian region in the past year.

Bitsiyev, who headed an armed group of Chechens in the late may hijacking of a Vladikavkaz-Stavropol passenger bus and subsequent hostage drama, will have to face the firing squad.

The court on Thursday also sentenced Bitsiyev's two accomplices, Temir-Ali Mazhayev and Ahmed Mazhmayev, to 15 years in a maximum-security prison, and their property will be confiscated by the state.

Wisdom of Krasnoyarsk Nuclear Plan Doubted

MM0508083194 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Aug 94 p 4

[Report by Aleksey Tarasov: "Secret City's Future Following President's Visit"]

[Text] Krasnoyarsk—Television and news agencies have reported almost everything about President B. Yeltsin's stay on Krasnoyarsk soil. But a meeting which has not taken place cannot get onto the screen or into news summaries. Although the actual cancellation of the previously scheduled conference in Krasnoyarsk-26, involving ecologists and radiation safety council members—the side rejecting the idea of constructing the RT-2 plant for reprocessing spent nuclear fuel—is remarkable.

Let me remind you that in 1992 two reactors producing weapons-grade plutonium at Krasnoyarsk-26's mining and chemical combine were shut down. Shutting down the last reactor is problematic—it provides two cities with heating. Construction of the RT-2 plant, begun in the Brezhnev era, was frozen with the onset of perestroyka. With the president's visit to this island of the nuclear archipelago the knot of problems—lack of money has already reached a point whereby specialists, after completing their shift, refused to come up from the underground nuclear chamber (the production facility is located deep inside a mountain)—has started to unravel. Yeltsin stated his position even before he had visited the RT-2 first phase—the fuel assembly storage facility. Outside its doors he said: "Before the end of September I will write an edict on the combine's future. Of course the last reactor will be taken out of operation before 2000. We do not need weapons-grade plutonium. We must complete RT-2's construction and construct a modern nuclear thermal power station under IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] control."

Meanwhile, according to a statement published the other day by a number of Krasnoyarsk specialists who have united in a public ecological safety council, the kray environmental protection committee has declared that the technical and economic case for the RT-2 plant has not been inadequately made. But the capital's bureaucrats made a purely formal reply, citing nonexistent articles of laws. The public's proposal concerning the need for an expert ecological study at kray level is being completely ignored.

Experts here, in the United States, and in a number of other countries cite many arguments against the plant's construction. Here is what Krasnoyarsk inhabitant A. Bolsunovskiy says: "In 1978 the U.S. Congress imposed a moratorium on reprocessing nuclear fuel and using plutonium as fuel for AES's [nuclear electric power stations]. One of the aims is to prevent the proliferation of plutonium to countries which could use it to manufacture nuclear weapons. Some countries joined the moratorium, but the USSR continued working on the reprocessing of fuel and the use of plutonium. With the result that tens of tonnes of plutonium were stockpiled in the country. After warheads have been dismantled and RT-2 has started up we will get hundreds of tonnes. There is no guarantee that some of this plutonium will not end up in third countries. And it takes only a few kilograms of plutonium to make a warhead.

Besides the political arguments, ecological fears are of course being expressed. The reprocessing of spent fuel is accompanied by the formation of a large quantity of radioactive waste. Can we rule out a leak into the environment of radionuclides with a half-life of hundreds of thousands of years? Opponents believe that the fuel and energy department has not adequately studied questions associated with the plant's effect on the Yenisey River, the environment as a whole, and the region's population. In the opinion of Krasnoyarsk expert V. Khizhnyak, the RT-2's construction on the open bank of one of the planet's largest water arteries, in a taiga zone, near a city of a million people, cannot be allowed.

The RT-2 plant is just the initial stage of the closed fuel cycle. Other facilities will inevitably have to be constructed after it. Incidentally, to complete RT-2's construction alone will cost over 2 trillion rubles [R], IZVESTIYA was informed by V. Savelyev, its director. The question is whether the expenditure is justified and whether the plant will be overburdened. It is quite obvious—from the Chelyabinsk example and the available information from Krasnoyarsk-26—that Siberians will be able to attract rich foreign clients if they offer additional services such as burying other people's waste following fuel reprocessing. This, Bolsunovskiy believes, is tantamount to turning a gigantic territory into a thousand-year burial ground. This would violate the Law on Environmental Protection, which bans the import of radioactive materials with the aim of storing and burying them on Russian Federation territory. A whole host of Asian and European countries is already showing interest in the project to complete RT-2's construction.

Of course, the Atomic Energy Ministry has its reasons. The problems of constructing the RT-2 plant, which are in general extremely pertinent to the future of nuclear power engineering, are complex and require a separate

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

and thorough discussion. Now it is a question not of whether to construct it or not, especially as a reply has already been given, but of whether to give complete information, a true picture to the public. If the project is irreproachable, why not let local specialists assure themselves of this and carry out a dual-level (federal and kray) ecological expert study? Why has the local ecologists' wish to put their arguments to the president been ignored?

Against this background there is a strange ring to the statement delivered on the banks of the Yenisey by Presidential Council Member L. Smirnyagin: "Siberia may have reached a new boundary: The period of extensive, colonial development is coming to an end, and a transition to a more mature phase and a different quality is needed, which will enable Siberia to become a region which Russians inhabit not just on behalf of the rest of Russia (to prevent the Chinese from getting hold of the land, as people used to say), but for their own sake. But the president wanted to talk directly to the Siberians before state decisions and programs emerge."

They talked. Judging from the situation regarding the RT-2 plant, the center is sticking to its previous role, while the Siberian bosses will not oppose very strongly the old style of mutual relations.

For a long time both the Gaydar and Chernomyrdin governments would not agree to a differentiated approach to Russia's Asian regions. For example, because of the remoteness of the markets for selling Siberian raw materials it is easier to set preferential transport tariffs for taiga regions and subsidize the Transsiberian Railroad than to "land" the budget with timber, coal, and other exporting enterprises, or else whole regions which were categorized as donor regions. The situation, which could not be simpler, is nonetheless only now being understood in the capital. The president has promised to help. Maybe Moscow's intentions were good, but while not wishing the fate of a colony and raw materials appendage to befall Siberia, by isolating it from the world it has probably condemned it to the development of processing sectors. But can this not be done by a cavalry charge? By all accounts leaders are now ridding themselves of the illusion, realizing that the Siberian raw materials extraction industry will prevail in the country's economy.

One way or another Siberians should expect financial injections, specifically into the development of the raw materials base and ecologically dangerous production facilities. That is why we need to devise a mechanism for public hearings into new and old grandiose projects. The ecological state of a number of rayons is almost catastrophic, and the construction of dangerous production facilities cannot be allowed without an expert study of the project materials by local specialists.

Krasnoyarsk-26 veterans told me that only N. Khrushchev's arrival at the beginning of the sixties could have curbed the generals' fantasies and stopped the underground construction. The military wanted to locate a branch of the Korolev bureau producing satellites and "Krasmash" [Krasnoyarsk Machine Building Plant] shops in a rock face, next to reactor and radiochemical plants, to protect them from nuclear attack. The underground "smithy" was to have supplied not only filling for atomic bombs but also guns and missiles. In general, it was to have forged a complete nuclear missile shield for the Motherland. Had it not been for Nikita Sergeyevich, maybe people would have been sent to the surface from the autonomous underground city only in order to be carted off to the cemetery. It is said that Khrushchev lost his temper when he saw a hospital in this underground kingdom—what fool (the epithet was stronger and more precise), he asked, could have thought of concealing a hospital underground? How much of the people's money has been poured into this? And he rejected the generals' plans.

Last Thursday [28 July] the nuclear department took its revenge.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

International Affairs

Foreign Ministry Deplores Bosnian Serb Plan Rejection

LD0408195994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1835 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry has called on all parties to the Bosnian conflict to do everything in their powers to prevent an escalation of military confrontation and find ways of a peace settlement of the problem." The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry deplored the fact that the Bosnian Serb parliament had rejected the settlement plan proposed by the international contact group.

Kiev Outlines Change in Stance on FRY Sanctions

LD0408162694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1314 GMT 4 Aug 94

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature: By correspondents Aleksandr Korzun, Igor Porshnev, Yevgeniy Terekhov and others]

[Text] Ukraine will no longer insist on its proposal to gradually lift the sanctions against Belgrade in response to the positive moves of Serbs towards the settlement of the conflict in Bosnia.

Acting Chief of the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry's Department of International Organizations Vladimir Elchenko said that Kiev had altered its position responding to the refusal of Bosnian Serbs to accept the plan for settlement of the conflict proposed by the contact group. "Given the new circumstances one must not make concessions to Bosnian Serbs, lift sanctions and wait for a positive response," he said.

At the same time, Elchenko said he believed it unreasonable to strengthen the sanctions. "The sanctions and the embargo have played their role. Yugoslavia is practically sealed from all sides. To tell the truth, I do not see how these sanctions could be strengthened further since they are already maximum," Elchenko added.

He considered the statement that Ukraine does not back the UN sanctions against Yugoslavia as "unfounded." "Kiev has been supporting and implementing them from the very beginning. However, it is also true that during two years of the sanctions Ukraine lost at least about $4 billion, primarily as a result of the suspended navigation on Danube. That is why during a year already Ukraine has been raising the issue on compensation to it and other countries laying along Danube for the loss which they already suffered and continue to suffer now," Elchenko said.

He said he believed that the issue on compensation is unlikely to be resolved soon. "Establishment of some UN funds would be required for this which is hardly probable within the context of the present situation. That is why Kiev insists on lifting some restrictions concerning the navigation on Danube," he added.

Elchenko made it clear that he meant restrictions making the life of the countries laying on Danube more difficult. "In particular, Ukraine proposes to facilitate the order for passage of transit cargoes by Danube to Yugoslavia. We are in favor of excluding a number of goods from the register of cargoes prohibited for transit to Yugoslavia, for instance such as ferrous metals, which though they are a strategic material, were never used by Yugoslavia. There is not a single iron and steel plant there. Serbs do not need such raw material. It is needed by Austria to which it was exported from Ukraine by Danube," Elchenko said.

Elchenko said that coke, different kinds of coal and some other goods were not included into the UN Security Council's register of cargoes which must not be brought to Yugoslavia. However, later they were indicated among prohibited cargoes by the UN Committee for Sanctions. "It happened that the UN Security Council did not prohibit them but later somebody decided they should be prohibited. All this is aimed against Ukraine which is a traditional exporter of raw material," he said.

Elchenko considered as "illogical and bizarre" the situation when the sanctions against Belgrade are acting and can be strengthened although contrary to Bosnian Serbs Belgrade supports the peace plan proposed by the contact group. "The prognosis of the world community which believed that the situation in Bosnia is under the complete control of Belgrade did not come true. It is obvious that Serb President Slobodan Milosevic does not have a 100-percent guaranteed influence on Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadic. This means that Belgrade Serbs are the main obstacle on the way to peace settlement, not Bosnian ones," Elchenko said.

Elchenko announced that the issue on possible withdrawal of Ukrainian peacekeepers from Bosnia if the world community resorted to force had not yet been discussed. He added he was concerned over the plans to transfer the UN peacekeeping forces in Bosnia under the NATO command. "I do not want to say that Ukraine will categorically object to this. However, he hopes that Kiev will be consulted," he added.

Elchenko said he believed that the withdrawal of the UN forces will lead to nothing positive. He added that this will cause many problems since the troop withdrawal will take much more than one or two hours. "The beginning of such an operation might be a message to Bosnian Serbs who can capture peacekeepers as hostages. Given such developments security for the UN forces can hardly be guaranteed, including that of Ukrainian servicemen," Elchenko said.

Atomic Energy Chief Cited on Western Aid Linkage

MK0408131494 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 4 Aug 94 p 9

[Unattributed report: "Western Aid to Ukrainian Atomic Power Industry Remains on Paper"]

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Text] "Aid from industrially developed countries of the West is being tied in with the future passing by parliament of a law on utilization of atomic energy." This was stated by Vissarion Kim, chairman for the administration of Atomic Electric Power Stations [AES] of Ukraine's Derzhatom. In modernizing its atomic power engineering, Ukraine intends to use equipment, which she will be able to manufacture. "As a last resort, we will orient ourselves toward the 'near abroad,' in particular, Russia. We are bound up with it so much."

The decommissioning of the first and the third generators of the Chernobyl AES would cost Ukraine $1.2 to $1.5 billion in addition to the cost of substitute generators, which is expected to be three times higher. And if the question of shutting down the Chernobyl AES is to be raised at all, then a campaign should be launched, in the final analysis, to shut down every Ukrainian AES because they are known to be far from meeting the operational safety standards for atomic electric power stations accepted in the rest of the world.

National Affairs

Lethal Isotopes at Chernobyl May Trigger 'Blast'

LD0408225894 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 2100 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] As UKRINFORM learned on Thursday, 4 August, lethal americium 241 and 242 isotopes have been detected in the Chernobyl nukes [as heard] 30-km belt, which is said to cause biological mutation and diseases in living organisms. As experts fear, the lethal radioactive isotopes are likely to trigger a nuclear blast at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant.

Further on Contamination

LD0508110194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0822 GMT 5 Aug 94

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Yelena Alikhanyan for TASS]

[Text] Kiev August 5 (TASS)—An extremely dangerous radioactive substance, americium-241, has been detected near the Chernobyl nuclear power station and in Ukrainian capital Kiev.

According to Viktor Sedletsky, president of the association of independent scientists of Ukraine, americium is highly poisonous and its period of semi-decay is approximately 430 years. The element which results from the decay of plutonium is easily dissolvable in water and migrates with it.

This element was discovered not only in the Chernobyl zone but also in Kiev. According to Sedletsky, the amount discovered was surprisingly great. He thinks this can be accounted for to inaccurate data about the amount of nuclear fuel discharged into the environment during the Chernobyl blast in 1986.

Some media reports alleged that the scientists also reported the presence of americium-242 in the area, but Sedletsky rejected the allegations. He recalled that that chemical element's life is no longer than 16 hours but its critical mass is so low that it can explode even when its quantity is negligible.

Some specialists say that the sarcophagus around the ill-fated Chernobyl reactor is crumbling exactly because of such micro-explosions of americium-242 which is accumulating in the cement.

According to Viktor Sedletsky, the state of the sarcophagus was critical even before the appearance of americium.

Another scientist, expert of the Ukrainian interdepartmental radiation control commission Yuri Solomatin blasted reports about americium as "artificial fostering of Chernobyl masochism". He said it is "irresponsible to give Ukrainian people yet another unjustified psychological trauma without first researching the problem which is known mainly from hearsay".

Kuchma To Sign Economic Reform Decrees

LD0408192194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1526 GMT 4 Aug 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[Text] The Ukrainian president intends this week to sign decrees aimed at reforming the economy.

Leonid Kuchma told a new conference during his tour of the Kherson Region that the documents will be signed following the conference of the country's leading economists on Friday.

It is a matter of the decree on the currency regulation reform providing for the resumption of work at the Inter-Bank Currency Exchange and the state-by-stage drawing closer of the market and official rate of the karbovanets. Drafted are also decrees on the bill's covering of mutual indebtedness of the subjects of management, the protection of Ukraine's internal market and some others.

The Ukrainian leader believes that stronger presidential power must be an efficient instrument for the overcoming of the current critical state in the economy.

He foresees the attempts by "certain forces" to initiate miners' strikes this autumn. Kuchma believes that people against whom the measures for combating corruption and organized crime are aimed may organize mass protests. They have much money and they will not give it right away, said the president.

Kuchma said that he intends in September to speak in parliament and outline the program of urgent measures.

Earlier, during the meeting with leaders of Odessa bodies of power, the president criticized the resolution of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet suspending the privatization at basic industries.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

He said: I do not understand the decision. If there are questions, they should be settled "at a go" without suspending the privatization. Instead creating the legal basis, parliament starts reviewing the adopted decisions, said the president.

The head of state drew everybody's attention that the parliament resolution on privatization was adopted several days after the departure from Kiev of the IMF managing director Michel Camdessus. Kuchma said that the IMF conditions the aid to Ukraine by the advancement of economic reforms.

At the same time, Kuchma considers as illusory the calculations that the republic's problems will be solved by foreign aid. Answering the question put by Interfax-Ukraine during his trip to Kherson, he said: "No one is in a hurry to Ukraine with aid, everyone poses conditions."

The president said: "Once we posed the condition on the withdrawing tactical nuclear weapons. There was no real aid after the condition was carried out."

Commenting on the recent meeting with U.S. Vice-President Albert Gore, the head of state said that he expects from the United States $350 million for the construction of the station for neutralization and reservoirs for nuclear fuel storage.

This aid must be offered to Ukraine in line with the tri-partite statement of the presidents of the United States, Ukraine and Russia on Ukraine's nuclear disarmament.

Only the Ukrainian side observes so far the conditions of this statement, believes Kuchma.

Worst Grain Yield in 20 Years Expected

LD0508033194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1406 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Viktor Demidenko and Mikhail Melnik]

[Text] Kiev, 4 Aug—This year Ukraine will bring in its lowest gross yield of grain for the last 20 years. Meanwhile, at the highest echelons of power it has been declared that the state will not import bread grain; this harvest information gives doubt to this view. Specialists predict that 11 million tonnes of grain will be harvested.

ITAR-TASS was told at the agriculture and food ministry news service that one can count on the actual fulfillment of the plan in several oblasts, including Dnepropetrovsk, Donetsk, and Kirovograd. The agricultural workers in the Transcarpathian, Ivano-Frankovsk, Rovno, Lvov, and Chernovtsy oblasts have completely fulfilled the state order. However, this will have virtually no effect on Ukraine's bread grain balance.

Nevertheless, the ministry is not loosing heart. Over 30 percent of the bread grain purchased under contract has already been stored in the granaries. This is in line with last year's grain harvest storage rate. However, there is an important factor which has not been taken into account. Last year the agricultural sector had concluded contracts with the state for the realization of over 14 million tonnes of grain; this year, it is only for 13 million. The main reason for this is the poor harvest.

Moreover, there is also a peasant's issue in this case. The farmers fear that the state might treat them in the same way as last year, when they were paid the money for the produce they sold to the state only this spring, and then farmers will hold back delivery of grain or look for a buyer with money.

One has to bear in mind that out of 4.5 million tonnes of grain sold last year over three million tonnes was wheat. At present the figure has not even reached the point of two million tonnes.

Although last year Ukraine had not purchased grain from abroad for the first time in many years—and made a good start this year—the issue of importing bread grain has yet to placed on the government agenda.

Moroz: Privatization 'Will Not Be Suspended'

LD0408230294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1835 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] The privatization in Ukraine will not be suspended, declared chairman of the republic's Supreme Soviet Oleksandr Moroz speaking at the Lvov Ukrainian-Swedish sewing joint venture Vesna Thursday.

"Neither the Supreme Soviet, nor I oppose privatization, he said and added, that what is going on now is just a mockery of the people. A robbery of the population is taking place now."

Responding to journalists, Moroz said: "The land should not be the subject of purchase and sale. Otherwise the people will not forgive us."

On July 29 the Ukrainian parliament adopted a resolution which suspends conclusion of agreements on purchase and sale and rent with the right to repurchase, thus suspending privatization in the basic branches of industry. The republican government has been commissioned to comply the list of enterprises not destined to privatization.

The chairman of the Ukrainian parliament is to conclude his trip throughout the Chernovtsy and Lvov regions on August 4.

Moroz Discusses Regional Issues in Lvov

LD0408205294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1829 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By UKRINFORM special correspondents Alexey Petrunya and Miron Pavlyust for TASS]

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Text] Lvov August 4 TASS—"I strongly believe that our country's laws should meet the interests of a working man, help build a civilized and democratic state. And the state is designed to protect these interests, not leaving its citizens to the mercy of commercial structures", Ukraine's parliament chairman Oleksandr Moroz said in an exclusive interview with the republican news agency UKRINFORM upon arriving in the west Ukrainian city of Lvov on Thursday.

Ukraine's all regions are now facing the same problems, the speaker noted. These problems are above all caused by the economic situation in the country. To solve them, we should pool our efforts rather than draw a dividing line between western and eastern regions, just as some politicians are trying to do. Only in this way we shall succeed in building an independent state.

"Some people abroad seek to portray Ukraine as a backward and poor country, but we are strong enough to put our own home in order, so that Ukraine become a civilized, democratic and economically powerful state", Moroz stressed.

Touching upon the agrarian issue, the parliament speaker emphasised that land should not be regarded as commodity, as an item of purchase and sale. Nobody will forgive us for it, he noted.

When asked about privatization, Moroz said neither parliament nor he himself opposed this process. But what we had under this name was a mere mockery of people. Privatization is designed not to rob people, but to turn them into real masters of life.

The parliament chairman visited some of the region's enterprises and met with representatives of various sections of the population.

Prospects for Access to World Markets Viewed

WS0508075794 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 2 Aug 94 p 3

[Interview with Serhiy Osyka, Ukrainian deputy minister of external economic relations, by Volodymyr Skachko; place and date not given: "Ukraine Needs To Make a Breakthrough Into World Markets"]

[Text] On Wednesday, Ukraine will be visited by U.S. Vice President Al Gore. His meetings with Ukrainian President Kuchma and other leaders of our state, which are to take place just after the change in Ukraine's political leadership, are of great importance, and not only for their political aspect. Special attention during the talks will be focused on economic problems, because the United States is today one of the main initiators of economic assistance to Ukraine.

In connection with this, Serhiy Osyka, Ukraine's deputy minister of external economic relations and special representative for issues related to joining GATT, has granted an interview to HOLOS UKRAYINY.

[Osyka] Al Gore's visit, which takes place after the G-7 summit in Naples and IMF Executive Director Michel Camdessus' visit to Kiev, is of a special character. Today, Ukraine has the most favorable conditions for obtaining Western economic aid that it has ever had since independence. It is very important that the United States is now not only an initiator of the process of granting credits for market reforms in Ukraine, but also supports the process of Ukrainian integration into the global trade regime.

Ukraine's equal access to world markets for goods, capital, and services can play no lesser role in the improvement of the domestic economy than credits from international financial organizations.

We have already been stressing that lifting trade barriers against Ukraine and our joining GATT should be one of the basic points of Western economic assistance to Ukraine.

[Skachko] During the summit of the world's leading economic powers in Naples, Russia chose to discuss the problem of opening Western markets for its goods and securing credits from international financial organizations. Are we also ready to pose the question in such a way, regardless of the obvious noncompetitiveness of our goods on world markets?

[Osyka] First, we should not take such a pessimistic view. We have things to offer on world markets, and these include not only raw materials and semifinished products, but also unique products of the domestic machine-building industry. Second, many of our goods are noncompetitive today due to rigid tariffs and antidumping measures adopted against Ukraine because we are not a member of GATT. Furthermore, we also suffer losses due to unreasonable import tariffs, which allow for cheap agricultural imports, thus suppressing a priority branch of our domestic economy. At the same time, formidable tariffs are being imposed on imported goods which are not produced by us.

Ill-considered legislation in the sphere of our external economic relations and its incompatibility with global trade demands posed by GATT and the World Trade Organization [WTO] causes us to lose hundreds of millions of dollars.

It was the meeting in Naples which positively assessed the conclusion of the Uruguay round of GATT trade talks and stressed the importance of an immediate process of making the GATT-WTO system an indispensable legal component of the global trade and economic regime.

The process of liberalizing the global economy is closely linked to WTO cooperation with the IMF and World Bank. One of the basic conditions for obtaining financial aid from international financial organizations is the liberalization of the external-trade regime. Thus, Ukraine's breakthrough into world markets means not

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

only a reform of our financial, customs, tariff, and investment policies. It also means real support for the increase in domestic production and money earned with our own hands, which, by the way, will facilitate the obtaining of Western credits by Ukraine. The industrial countries at the Naples meeting expressed their readiness to ease the conditions for access by Ukrainian goods to their markets, which is connected in the first place with the last steps taken by the Ukrainian Government to join GATT.

[Skachko] What does Ukraine need to do to gain access to Western markets in the near future?

[Osyka] First and foremost, Ukraine must quickly advance on the path toward joining the GATT-WTO system. This course presents a possibility to force economic reforms in Ukraine in a relatively short period of time and with acceptable losses; to do this, it is necessary to implement a number of complex measures with regard to system transformation, modernization, and reconstruction of Ukrainian economic legislation according to GATT-WTO principles, norms, and standards. We have worked out an entire system of measures which, if adopted, will enable Ukraine to considerably advance on the path toward improvement in the domestic economy. Access to world markets is an important stimulus to our producers.

The administration of the U.S. President has already taken an important step on its part. The Senate and the House of Representatives are already examining a draft law, proposed by the U.S. President, on granting the status of an "economy of interim period" to Central and East European countries, which will considerably expedite the process of Ukraine's integration into the global trade regime.

Crimean President Establishes Security Body

LD0408215594 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1445 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Excerpts] Simferopol—President Yuriy Meshkov has issued a directive setting up the Republic of Crimea presidential service for security and interstate affairs, with a staff of 39 people. [passage omitted]

According to the presidential administration, this body is not part of the government structure. Administration sources have disclosed that the service will be headed by Colonel Vladimir Bortnikov who has long record of service in Russian security bodies.

Serhiy Nikulin, chairman of the Crimean parliament's standing commission for legislative affairs, has expressed surprise at the fact that the service was set up before the formation of the government structure. "The sources of its funding are unknown," he told UNIAN. President Meshkov's directive on the formation of the service is dated 18 July, but has only recently come to light. It is Crimea's third security body, after the Security Service of Ukraine, Crimean branch, headed by General Ivan Kolomyytsev, and the Security Service of Crimea, headed by General Volodymyr Lepykhov who was appointed by a Crimean presidential decree and approved by the republic's Supreme Council.

Crimean Interior Minister Supports Connection to Kiev

LD0408203494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1601 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Valeriy Kuznetsov, Crimea's Interior Minister, deems it expedient to have Crimea's Interior Ministry be subordinate to both Kiev and Simferopol.

Speaking at the session of Crimea's Supreme Soviet devoted to crime fighting on August 4, Kuznetsov declared that in his opinion the issue should be resolved at the negotiations with the Ukrainian leadership.

He reported that next Monday he intends to negotiate with Ukraine's Interior Minister Vladimir Radchenko in Kiev.

Kuznetsov believes that both Ukraine and Crimea should finance the Crimean interior bodies.

At the same time head of Crimea's criminal police Valeriy Petukhov declared to the deputies that at present "the Crimean militia is actually subordinated to the Main Interior Department under Ukraine's Interior Ministry in Crimea." He also said that the Crimean Minister Valeriy Kuznetsov "is alone and has no real levers for management."

Valeriy Kuznetsov was appointed to the post of Crimea's Interior Minister this April in accordance with the decree adopted by President Yuriy Meshkov. At that time the Crimean president also created Crimea's Interior Ministry and Security Service and declared that they are to be subordinate to Simferopol alone.

Crimean Deputies Vote for Dual Citizenship

LD0508095894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1716 GMT 4 Aug 94

["INTERFAX-UKRAINE" news item]

[Text] 62 of the 65 Crimea Supreme Council deputies present at the session of August 4, voted for putting a legislation initiative to Verkhovna Rada [Supreme Council] of Ukraine, on amend and supplement the Constitution of Ukraine, the Law of Ukraine "On Citizenship" and other legislative acts which regulate the right for dual citizenship.

As an "IF-U" correspondent reports, the adapted resolution says that Crimeans' wish to have dual citizenship, confirmed by results of a poll March 27 this year, "demands the soonest implementation of dual citizenship and promotes liquidation of social tension in Crimea and strengthening of broken ties".

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

According to Crimea parliamentary deputies, amendments to Ukrainian legislation should denominate the issues of citizenship of the Republic of Crimea to be regulated by the Law of the Republic of Crimea "On Citizenship" and citizens of Crimea to have a right to citizenship of the other country on base of duo-partite treaties.

The same time, Crimean deputies voted against a suggested amendment of the Law of Ukraine "On Citizenship" in accordance with which citizens of Crimea are Ukrainian citizens as well. At this, Sergey Nikulin, chairman of parliament commission for law-making, reminded of "Crimea still being under jurisdiction of Ukraine".

S. Nikulin told at the session that putting such a legislative initiative to Ukrainian parliament is a vital move before to pass Crimean Law "On Citizenship".

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Belarus

Lukashenka Amends Government Structure

LD0408171894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1526 GMT 4 Aug 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature: Compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy; edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[Text] The administration of the Belarussian president told Interfax that President Aleksandr Lukashenka has confirmed the structure of the country's new government.

Lukashenka made a decision to preserve only 26 ministries, including the State Security Committee (under Vyacheslav Kebich there were as many as 32 of them).

The structure of the governmental apparatus will be subjected to principal changes. All departments, but the legal and economic departments, the office, and the service in charge for the control over the implementation of the presidential decrees will be abolished.

According to Lukashenka, "thanks to this the premier will be able to work directly with the ministers but not by means of mediation of different structures." The president believes that the situation under which the ministers were actually subordinated to the employees of the Council of Ministers' apparatus represented by leaders of different departments is abnormal.

The presidential administration also reported to Interfax about Lukashenka's intention to sign decrees in order to ban creation of commercial structures under state enterprises and to re-conclude contracts with leaders of state enterprises. He is also to sign decrees related to state property privatization.

Interfax interlocutor underlined that this first package of Lukashenka's decrees "is aimed at strengthening discipline, legitimacy, and legal order in the republic."

New Ministers Appointed; Probable Secretaries Named

WS0508075894 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0700 GMT 5 Aug 94

[Text] In an interview with a BELINFORM correspondent, Leanid Sinitsyn, chief of the Belarusian presidential administration, has reported that the status of another four ministerial posts has already been resolved. Volha Darhel has been appointed minister of social security. Housing Minister Barys Batura will remain in his post. The Transportation and Agriculture Ministries, however, will have new chiefs. The former will be led by Alyaksandr Lukashow, the latter by—Vasil Lyavonaw.

Leanid Sinitsyn has also stated that presidential edicts appointing state secretaries will be issued in the near future. Dzmitryy Bulakhaw will probably lead the Presidential Council, Viktar Sheyman—the National Security Council.

National Bank Restricts Circulation of Rubles

LD0408212294 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] The National Bank of Belarus has restricted the circulation of Belarusian cash rubles. The bank management explained that this measure has been caused by the serious cash turnover situation that has come about because of the populist decisions by the cabinet of the former Prime Minister Vyacheslav Kebich on raising the minimum wage and other social benefits.

The situation has also been complicated by a shortage in the shops of everyday necessities, as a result of which over 2 trillion rubles remain unused in citizens's purses.

ITAR-TASS reports that, according to the bank, the restrictions adopted are of a temporary nature and will be lifted as early as September.

Deal Made To Partially Repay Russian Gas Debt

WS0408140194 Minsk BELAPAN in Belarusian 1215 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] According to the Belarusian Ministry of Economy, the Belarusian Government and the Russian joint stock company "Gazprom" have concluded a contract for the "Belbud" corporation of Belarus to construct housing and other social-purpose facilities in Russia. In this way, the Belarusian side intends to partially repay its debt for Russian natural gas. The Belarusian state enterprise "Beltransgaz" has been designated as a contractor in the plan. Construction will be carried out in Tver, Kostroma, and Kaliningrad Oblasts of the Russian Federation.

Borisov Plant Continues To Dismantle Weapons

WS0508093294 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0700 GMT 5 Aug 94

[Text] The Borisov tank repair plant, at which the dismantlement of military equipment is being continued in accordance with the international treaty on conventional armed forces in Europe, has reached a pivotal milestone. As of 4 August, over 1,900 tanks, armored personnel carriers, and armored fighting vehicles have been decomissioned.

According to agreements with foreign military inspectors, which are overseeing the process, the procedures have been simplified, meaning that the fulfillment of international agreements on disarmament will be less expensive.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Moldova

Reaction to Bucharest's Statement on Constitution

AU0408124294 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1900 GMT 2 Aug 94

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 2/8/1994—"The Romanian Government's declaration on the adoption of Constitution in the Republic of Moldova contains many exaggerations and dramatizations of the existing situation," declared to BASA Dumitru Diacov, head of the Parliamentary Commission for Foreign Relations. "We hoped that the Romanian Government will understand Moldovan population's situation and the Parliament's. All deputies have acknowledged the identity of Romanian and Moldovan languages, but most people are against the stipulation of this fact in the Constitution," stated Diacov. In his opinion, the Bucharest Government's declaration will lead to the straining and worsening of relations between the two states. "Those from Bucharest have to understand that after February 27 another party, different from the preceding ones, came to power in Chisinau. And from the last passages of the Romanian Government's declaration we have understood that it will work together only with the unionist forces," gauged the Parliamentary commission head, adding that "such an approach to the relations between Moldova and Romania is biased and fails to take into consideration our realities."

Asked to comment on the Bucharest's Declaration on the adoption of the Moldovan Constitution, Ion Ungureanu, head of the Parliamentary Commission for State Securrty, told BASA that the Romanian Government probably failed to understand correctly the Constitution as well as the way it has been adopted. "Probably, those from Bucharest were misled by the right wing factions and opposition," added Ungureanu. The Social Democratic leader, Oazu Nantoi, declared that the party he represents considers that there exists a Moldovan people, which is a community including all ethnic groups and, of course, the Romanians. At the same time, Nantoi stated that the forces represented in the Moldovan Parliament are stuck on the level of political discussions of 1989. "It is a pity that many politicians have not yet understood who we are and what language we speak," pointed out Nantoi. He said that the Bucharest Government's Declaration will not produce any essential changes in the relations between Romania and Moldova, because "there is nothing to spoil. Probably, this declaration represents the officialization of the genuine relationship between Chisinau and Bucharest," concluded Nantoi.

Asked to comment on the declaration by the Romanian Government on the adoption of the Moldovan Constitution, Iurie Rosca, Christian Democratic People's Front [FPCD] Alliance chairman, stated to BASA that the declaration reflects correctly and exactly the development of political events in Bessarabia. Rosca believes that "it is good that the Romanian Government announced its viewpoint on the activity of the Moldovan Parliament. The Romanian Government was right to say that behind the term 'Moldovan language' interests from outside Moldova, such as the old Russia's interest in dividing Romania in order to extend its domination in this region of Europe, are hidden." Referring to the future of the relations between Romania and Moldova, Rosca states that they can worsen or improve depending on the declarations. "Perhaps, Bucharest should not have been so enthusiastic in recognizing the Declaration on Moldova's Independence," Rosca said.

Nicolae Osmochescu, vice foreign minister, refused to comment on this declaration arguing that "the problem concerns the government." Ion Sofronie, government spokesman, stated to BASA that the government will take a position after it learns it properly.

Use of Term 'Romanian Language' May Be Punishable

AU0408115994 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1900 GMT 2 Aug 94

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 2/8/1994—"People who are going to use the term 'Romanian language' could be punished," declared to VOCEA POPORULUI Victor Puscas, minister for relations with the Parliament, referring to the guarantees for respecting the Moldovan Constitution adopted July 28, 1994. The newspaper doubts that "the justice will be able to find evidence to condemn those who violate constitutional norms" as "no one will be able to prove that the term used by a possible guilty person is forbidden by the Moldovan Constitution."

Government Reduces Natural Gas Fees

AU0408143994 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1900 GMT 2 Aug 94

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 2/8/1994—Today, the Moldovan Government decided to reduce the fees for natural gas by 25 percent. Thus, 1,000 cubic meters of gas will cost 403.8 lei instead of the 538.3 lei until now. Industrial consumers will pay 418,72 lei for 1,000 cubic meters; this is by 33.3 percent less than that used until now. The fees for households were reduced by 12.3 percent; 1,000 cubic meters will cost 281.5 lei. Government sources told BASA that the annual natural gas consumption in Moldova stands at 3.5 billion cubic meters, which represents 50 percent of all energy resources used.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Kazakhstan

Oil Deliveries Via Russian Transit To Double

LD0408184694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1414 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Feodor Ignatov and KAZTAG correspondent Anatoliy Tischler]

[Text] Alma Ata August 4 TASS—Russia has allowed Kazakhstan to increase the volume of oil deliveries to foreign consumers via its territory to help its southern neighbour cope with economic difficulties in its development.

Kazakhstan announced it will nearly double the amount of oil deliveries to its foreign customers via Russian territory from August.

In the first six months of this year, the joint Kazakh-American enterprise Tenghizchevroil fed only 120 thousand tonnes of oil into the Druzhba pipeline for pumping to other countries. Under the new agreement between Russia and Kazakhstan, the amount will be raised to 740 thousand tonnes per every three months.

Kazakhstan is also set to use waterways to deliver its oil to consumers. Tankers are filled with Kazakhstan's oil at the terminal in the port of Aktau on the Caspian Sea, from which they cross over to Astrakhan and then along the Volga-Don-Black Sea route to foreign countries.

Kazakhstan, Russia and Oman have formed a consortium to build and operate a pipeline linking the Tenghiz oil field to Astrakhan on the Caspian Sea to Novorossiysk on the Black Sea, which will facilitate the solution of many problems relating to deliveries of Kazakhstan's oil to foreign consumers.

Foreign Minister Talks With ROK Ambassador

LD0308175594 Almaty KAZTAG in Russian 1430 GMT 3 Aug 94

[Text] [No dateline as received] Kazakhstan Minister of Foreign Affairs Kanat Saudabayev received the ambassador of the Republic of Korea on 2 August. The sides exchanged views on prospects for developing bilateral cooperation. It was noted that the current state of political and trade-economic cooperation does not comply with the potential of both countries. The Korean ambassador reported on Seoul's attitude to the situation on the Korean peninsula and in the Asia-Pacific region. An accord was reached on the need for promoting efforts aimed at expanding cooperation between Kazakhstan and the Republic of Korea. It was emphasized that a meeting between the presidents of both countries could have contributed to this.

DPRK Cooperation, Talks Protocol Signed

LD0408165594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1341 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Kulagin]

[Text] Alma-Ata [Almaty] August 4 TASS—A protocol on consultations and cooperation between the foreign ministries of Kazakhstan and North Korea was signed here today.

The document, in particular, envisages closer political, economic and cultural cooperation, strengthened ties between the two ministries' territorial and functional sub-departments, and the holding of consultations on different issues of mutual interest.

The protocol was signed by Kasymzhomart Tokayev, foreign minister of Kazakhstan and the North Korean ambassador to Kazakhstan.

Grain Harvest To 'Fully Meet' Requirements

MM0408091594 Moscow RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA in Russian 3 Aug 94 p 2

[Report by Vyacheslav Kokhanov: "Grain to the Left, Grain to the Right"]

[Text] According to the forecasters, the average grain harvest in Kazakhstan is expected to be around 8-10 quintals per hectare, and the assumed gross harvest around 18-19 million tonnes. This will fully meet all the republic's grain requirements. Specialists believe that the outlook for the harvest is good in North Kazakhstan, Kustanay [Qostanay], Kokshetau, and Aktyubinsk [Aqtobe] Oblasts. Central Kazakhstan has mostly been affected by drought, particularly the republic's vast breadbasket—Aqmola Oblast. It plans to harvest six quintals per hectare and to lay in 1.5 million tonnes of grain. The Aqmola people will have enough for a harsh winter.

Government Seeks Higher Oil Transit Quotas

LD0308154194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1050 GMT 3 Aug 94

[Text] Kazakhstan's Oil and Gas Industry Ministry has asked Russia to raise the quota for oil transit through Russian territory in order to export another 1.5 million tonnes of Kazakh oil.

A ministry source told the Petroleum Information Agency that Kazakhstan was forced to make the request due to "the difficult financial situation experienced by Kazakhstan's oil and gas enterprises, as earnings from oil exports are their sole income."

Earlier the Kazakh enterprise Kazakhstanmunaigaz (which produces and refines oil and gas) handed over its export transit volume (1 million tonnes of oil) to the Russian organization Rosneft. The oil will be re-exported under an agreement between Russia and Kazakhstan.

As a result, Kazakhstan's oil producers, left with no hard currency income, were forced to assume high-interest bank loans.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Industry experts said Kazakhstan will have to export at leaset 250,000 tonnes of oil to pay off the loans. Almaty is counting on Moscow's consent to transit about 125,000 tonnes of oil through Russian territory in August and September. Kazakhstan would receive about $20 million from these exports.

Kazakhstan exported about 2 million tonnes of oil through Russia in the first half, compared with 3.5 million tonnes stipulated by agreements between Russia and Kazakhstan. The state enterprise Kazakhstanmunaigaz and the joint Kazakh-American venture TengizChevrOil handle shipments from Kazakhstan for export.

Kyrgyzstan

President Paves Way for Independent Judiciary

MM0408111194 Moscow NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA in Russian 3 Aug 94 p 2

[Report from the RIA-INTERFAX column: "Court of Elders for Kirghizia"]

[Text] Under an edict from Kirghiz [Kyrgyz] President Askar Akayev that was published in Bishkek Tuesday it is planned to set up an independent judicial system. In particular, it is planned to move away from the institution of people's assessors to using jurors, and to set up the institution of justices of the peace [mirovykh sudey] elected by the population to examine complex criminal, civil, and administrative cases. Moreover, it is planned to introduce a court of elders.

Resolution on Strengthening Legal Power

LD0308123594 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Russian 2300 GMT 2 Aug 94

[Text] The president of Kyrgyzstan has issued a resolution on measures aimed at strengthening judicial power and authority of courts. [Words indistinct] transfer to market economy and social reforms in Kyrgyzstan are closely connected with a strong and authoritative judicial power. At the same time courts when administering justice, protecting rights and legal interests of citizens, examining economic disputes, and combatting crime do not act in compliance with the high standards that are set by the Constitution of Kyrgyzstan. The current role of courts does not comply with the constitutional provision on the independence and interaction between legal, executive, and legislative branches of power.

In connection with this, I state: First, we aim to define the main directions of domestic policy and ensure the interaction and functioning of state bodies and to proceed from the Constitutional provision on dividing the state power of Kyrgyztan into three branches—legal, legislative, and executive. Having this as a basis, we aim to address issues of financial, organizational, and material provision of courts.

Second, the council of courts of Kyrgyzstan within two months should draft a concept for judicial reform and a package of draft laws, which will be a basis for the new legal procedure and judicial system in Kyrgyzstan. They should pay attention to the following issues, in particular: [word indistinct], the creation of a new independent legal system, the formation of state bodies of legal self-management, and [word indistinct] principles of their activities. [Words indistinct] of the nonexistent institution of People's assessors with a view to gradual introduction of a democratic institution of jury, collective examination of complicated civil cases by professional judges and the introduction of the world institution of (?people's) judges, which are elected by the population to examine complicated criminal, civil, and administrative cases. The regulation for electing the court and procedures for court activities are as follows:

1. The introduction of the appellate procedure in examining criminal and civil cases in a court of the second instance, which excludes prolonged and formal examination of citizens' appeals';

2. [Words indistinct] on legal administration, on qualification commissions of courts in accordance with draft laws, named in Provision B Article 2 of this resolution.

3. A regulation on the creation of a center where judges will be able to upgrade their knowledge, which has to be agreed with those CIS state bodies and departments that show interest.

Third, it is necessary to draft and submit in 1994 a draft law on the members of the legal profession to the Supreme Soviet of Kyrgyzstan. It will be aimed at satisfying legal interests of citizens in full; when needed it will be done at the cost of a special fund.

Fourth, the government of Kyrgyzstan and heads of state local administrations should provide all republican courts with space, in compliance with their high constitutional status before 1 November 1994. If needed they can use those buildings that are occupied by other state bodies.

Fifth, the government of Kyrgyzstan in 1994 should address issues of increasing wages of judges and of other court employees, increasing allowances [word indistinct], and improving a pension plan of judges and material and technical support of courts. The state secretary under the president of Kyrgyzstan is invested with a power of supervising the implementation of it.

[Signed] Kyrgyzstan President Akayev, Bishkek, the government house
[Dated] 27 July 1994

World Bank Makes Grant for Social Protection Plan

LD0308173094 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Kyrgyz 2300 GMT 2 Aug 94

[Text] The World Bank's board of directors has approved a draft plan, drawn up by its experts, for the

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

social protection of Kyrgyzstanis. The World Bank will grant around $20 million for the implementation of the program; of this sum, $2.8 million will be allocate for employment issues. The part of the program which deals with employment issues has been prepared by a group of experts, led by Robert Hall, former U.S. deputy labor minister [title as heard] and adviser to former President Jimmy Carter. A tender will be organized with a view to implementing the program. Great Britain, Switzerland, Austria, Germany, the United States, and other countries will participate in it. The successful bidder will render technical support to Kyrgyzstan, help it with equipment, and organize training of experts. The program is aimed at tackling employment problems in Kyrgyzstan and bringing them into compliance with Western standards.

Akayev Orders Rail Link of 'Strategic Importance'

LD0408174294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1526 GMT 4 Aug 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature: compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy; edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[Text] President Askar Akayev has ordered the government to set up an inspectorate to oversee the construction of a railway to link the north and south of the republic, to find sources to finance a feasibility study for the project, and to try to attract foreign capital to it.

Akayev attaches "strategic importance" to the railway. He expects it to give an impulse to the social and economic development of Kyrgyzstan, solve its energy problems, and make it possible to use the rich natural resources in the central regions of the republic.

One of Kyrgyzstan's leading engineering experts, Academician Kubat Osmonbetov, in an interview with Interfax said it would also possible to produce large amounts of lead, zinc, silver and other minerals by developing their extremely rich deposits situated along the route of the future railway. Thus, work could start at the Kara-Keche coal field, where annual production could ultimately be brought to 3.5 to 4 million tonnes, Osmonbetov said. He also thinks that many parts of the republic will receive enough oil and natural gas and that cargo will no longer have to travel through the territory of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan on its way from the north of Kyrgyzstan to its south and vice versa.

Osmonbetov is sure that the railway will also provide work for thousands of young men and women and will be of cultural importance as well for it would offer wide opportunities for tourism.

Tajikistan

Russian Military 'Neutral' in Inter-Tajik Conflict

LD0408163294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1049 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[Text] Moscow August 4 TASS—The Russian 201st Infantry Division is continuing to guard the Tajik border of the Commonwealth of Independent States while staying neutral in the internal civil conflict in the Republic of Tajikistan.

According to the coordination headquarters for CIS military cooperation, the division is fulfilling peacekeeping functions and provides reinforcement for the Russian border guards in times of critical need. Such times include, in particular, when armed Tajik opposition militants try to cross the border or unfold large-scale military actions.

The coordination headquarters pointed out that the Russian infantry is not taking any part in efforts to free the 50 loyalist Tajik military personnel who were captured by the opposition several days ago in the Pripamir region.

Headquarters experts have noted that the infantry division acts as a deterrent, so it is no coincidence that it has been subject to attacks from the right-wing Islamic fundamentalists.

The latter's goal is obvious, according to the Russian military. It is to enmesh the Russian military in the internal Tajik conflict in order to discredit Russia's peacekeeping efforts in the region. According to the headquarters experts, the hard-line opposition makes no bones about its intention to forcecefully take power.

Iranian Foreign Minister on Inter-Tajik Talks

LD0508085594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0826 GMT 5 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Konstantin Pribytkov]

[Text] Geneva 5 Aug (TASS)—"Not a single foreign state, be it Russia, Iran or any other country, should interfere in the internal affairs of Tajikistan", Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati told ITAR-TASS, setting out Tehran's position on the Tajik conflict problem. The people of Tajikistan should have a say in the current situation, he emphasised.

"We believe that there is no military solution to the Tajikistan situation. As far as Iran is concerned, we always sought to convince the two conflicting sides to sit down at one table and negotiate for a peaceful settlement," the minister pointed out.

Mr Velayati, who attended a meeting of the "Islamic contact group" on Bosnia in Geneva on Thursday, recalled that "two rounds of inter-Tajik talks were held in Moscow and Tehran and a third one is to be held in Islamabad".

"We believe that all sides—I mean Russia, Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan and other neighbouring countries, should first of all impel the opposition and the government to be more active at the third meeting," the Iranian foreign minister emphasised.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Touching upon the stand of Russia, which had stated its neutrality in the Tajik conflict, Mr Velayati said "we act likewise".

Border Guard Captives Freed in Military Operation

LD0508104194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0955 GMT 5 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Text] Dushanbe August 5 TASS—All the 14 Russian border guards, who had been taken prisoner by Tajik opposition militants in the Pamirs sector of the Tajik-Afghan border, were freed on Thursday night as a result of a successful combat operation.

An attack on an armoured personnel carrier of the 12th border picket border guards of the Khorog detachment was made on Wednesday night. Three Russians were wounded during the fighting. One of them died later in the day.

The socio-political situation in the eastern areas of the republic and, primarily, in Tavil Darya district remains complex. Positional fighting in some places does not cease.

Uzbekistan

Karimov Assesses Situation in Tajikistan

LD0408185994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1526 GMT 4 Aug 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature: Compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy; edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[Text] President Islam Karimov does not rule out the possibility Tajikistan may be admitted in the political alliance of three Central Asian countries of the CIS on the condition the political situation in that country returns to stability. He was speaking at a news conference in Tashkent.

Karimov said that the Central Asian union was an open one. "We are not against Tajikistan's admission in the common economic space of Uzbekistan, Kyrgystan and Kazakhstan, however, the situation in Afghanistan proper and on the Tajik-Afghan border by no means promotes open borders and remains a restricting factor for us. In the long run integration is inevitable, but it will take time", Karimov said.

He believes that the sole effective means to improve the internal political situation in Tajikistan would be presidential elections on a democratic, contested basis. President Karimov is certain that the presidential election campaign in Tajikistan would succeed in case the authorities declare a political amnesty, but not a criminal one.

IF Note: The Tajik parliament has scheduled the presidential election for September 25. The authorities deny there are any political prisoners in the country.

Karimov believes that the implementation of his proposals would promote a fruitful dialogue between the Tajik government and the Opposition. "In any case everything that happens in Tajikistan is its internal affair and Uzbekistan strictly adheres to a policy of non-interference in the internal affairs of neighboring countries".

At the same time the Uzbek leader has said that the problem of stability on the Tajik-Afghan border was not an internal affair of either Tajikistan or Afghanistan, because the reliability of a common border of the CIS member-countries was at stake.

Karimov spoke in favor of greater United Nations attention to the situation in Afghanistan. He recalled that Uzbekistan had initiated a permanent seminar for a settlement of the Afghan crisis under the auspices of the United Nations. "The United Nations seems to be in favor of convening an early conference on Afghanistan", Karimov said. He revealed that at yesterday's meeting with a special envoy of the United Nations Secretary General Butrus-Butrus Ghali he proposed a ban on arms supplies to Tajikistan. President Karimov believes that that measure would help ease tensions in the region.

About Uzbekistan's domestic problems Karimov said that the government's priorities remained unchanged: Fostering the national currency - the sum, fighting corruption and the abuse of power and promoting privatization.

President Karimov said he was going to hold regular meetings with journalists.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Armenia

Attack From Nakhichevan Repulsed

NC0408135794 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1300 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] The Armenian Defense Ministry Press Service has reported that Army formations in Nakhichevan resumed aggressive operations against Armenia's southeast border last night. The enemy opened fierce artillery shelling on the defensive positions around Shagat and Brnakot in Sisianskiy Rayon as of 1800. Taking advantage of the foggy weather, Nakhichevani infantrymen launched an attack on the defensive positions near Brnakot. Armenia's border guards launched a counter operation. The fighting continued until 2130. The enemy was repulsed. There are casualties on both sides.

According to the same source, the situation was calm elsewhere on the border last night and this morning. The same press service reported an hour ago that a relative calm prevails in all the border regions.

The Nagorno-Karabakh Republic Defense Army Press Service reported that no cease-fire violations took place on the Karabakh fronts.

Planned Russian Military Base in Armenia Discussed

NC0408210494 Baku TURAN in English 1719 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Moscow (August 4) TURAN—"The treaty, now in preparation, on Russian military bases in Armenia is an unprecedented document." Colonel-General Vladimir Kuznetsov, head of the Russian Defense Ministry's engineering troops, declared. "It will be the first Russian base on the territory of another state," said Kuznetsov, who headed the military section of the Russian state delegation which concluded talks with Armenian officials in Yerevan on July 15. "Russian military bases in Armenia are being set up not to threaten any state, but to maintain peace in the region,". Kuznetsov thought it likely that the treaty on Russian military bases in Armenia would be signed in August or September this year. He said he thought that the treaty would have a positive effect on the conflicts taking place in the region. "War has brought so much misery to the Armenian and Azeri peoples, and it [is] Russia's mission to stop the bloodshed," Kuznetsov said. A Russian military base in Armenia and military-political cooperation between the two countries would serve the cause of peace, he emphasized.

Armenian Defense Minister Serzh Sargisyan stated that he is convinced that a strong Russian military base in Armenia will mean a strengthening of the Armenian national army. He pointed out that a Russian military presence in Armenia would in itself further the successful progress of rebuilding the republic's military. Sargisyan announced that Armenian cadets would be training in Russian military schools as early as this year.

Pavel Felgengauer, in an article for Segodnya on June 15, writes that economic ties between Russia and the Transcaucasus have weakened considerably, and at this point there is no serious hope of radical changes for the better. In economic terms, the region is coming to be tied more and more closely to Turkey and Iran, just as it was two centuries ago. But in time, the Russian military's cooperation with the Transcaucasian republics will evidently be able to help restore trade and other potential military threat to Russia. For instance, Moscow and Yerevan have developed relations that can quite accurately be described as a close military alliance. The 127th Motorized Infantry Division stationed in Gyumri (with one regiment in Yerevan) evidently will eventually be transformed into a brigade, and the amount of heavy weapons and armored vehicles will be reduced somewhat. At the same time, army aircraft will be sent to Armenia, a move that will sharply increase the real combat potential of Russian troops on the Turkish border. A joint Russian-Armenian anti-aircraft defense system will also be deployed. Fighter-interceptors, anti-aircraft missile complexes, radar devices, etc. will be sent to Armenia.

The military alliance with Armenia has somewhat cooled relations between Moscow and Baku. Moreover, Moscow try to show Baku and Tbilisi that it will not leave Transcaucasus. Judging by all, Russia will be trying to achieve its strategic interests in Transcaucasus by means of Russian Generals.

Kazimirov Notes Plans To Visit Conflict Zone

NC0308134494 Yerevan ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN in English 0703 GMT 3 Aug 94

[Text] Yerevan ("YERKIR" daily), 08/03/94—Special envoy of the Russian president Vladimir Kazimirov declared that together with the CSCE Minsk group Chairman Jan Eliasson, they are planning to visit the conflict zone during the first half of August.

Kazimirov also reported that the sides of the conflict, along with the development of a great political agreement, are also working on the project of stationing international observers in the conflict zone, to control implementation of responsibilities the sides will take according to the agreement.

At the same time Kazimirov refuted the information of the former US representative to CSCE [John] Maresca, who related the resolution of the Azeri conflict with Caspian oil prospecting negotiations.

Kazimirov declared that American experts are making such declarations since the United States are less interested in resolution of the conflict, then Russia.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Nagorno-Karabakh Makes Appeal on POW Exchange

NC0408154694 Yerevan SNARK in English 1016 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Stepanakert, August 4 (SNARK)—The Azerbaijani side restrains from direct dialogue with Karabakh. The urgent problem the sides should discuss is the POW and hostages' exchange, informs the Karabakh Department of Press and Information referring the Chairman of the Nagorno-Karabakh State Commission on POW, Hostages and Lost People Aleksandr Agasaryan.

According to Mr. Agasaryan, Baku refuses to supply Karabakh with the lists of hostages' names and the places where they are imprisoned. In most cases the private persons are responsible for the fate of imprisoned Armenians. But those people don't answer to the law and state.

But now when the sides are at the eve of the long-termed armistice the Karabakh side again expresses its "yes" to direct contacts with Azerbaijan—to defend the rights of POW and hostages.

3,000 Tons of Grain Delivered From U.S.

NC0308135294 Yerevan ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN in English 0703 GMT 3 Aug 94

[Text] Yerevan ("HAYASTANI HANRAPETUTYUN" daily), 08/03/94—About 6,000 farms in 29 districts of Armenia will sow American grain seeds this autumn. The first batch, three thousand tons of seeds, have reached Armenia and is stored for distribution.

RA [Republic of Armenia] Deputy Minister of Agriculture Ishkhan Martirosyan thanked the US Government, the Ambassador of the United States to Armenia Harry Gilmore, Head of the Caucasian office of the US International Development Agency Susan Olds for this important aid. He said that 30 distribution points have already been prepared to start the distribution of seeds among peasants.

Azerbaijan

Turkish Military Assistance Reported

NC0308191794 Yerevan SNARK in English 1403 GMT 3 Aug 94

[Text] Stepanakert, August 3 (SNARK)—New batches of ammunition including artillery shells and anti-tank mines have been delivered to Azerbaijan from Turkey. The Karabakh's Department of Press and Information (DPI) referring to the data of radio interception informed SNARK of it. It is reported also that a group of the Turkish military instructors arrived in Azerbaijan with the goal to train Azerbaijani army's recruits.

According to the radio interception data, during the recent visit of General Dogan Gures, head of the General Staff of Turkey's Troops, to Baku they achieved an agreement to strengthen the military assistance of Turkey to Azerbaijan.

Meanwhile, the situation at the zone of Karabakh-Azerbaijani conflict has not changed. The opposite sides, adhering to the conditions of the armistice agreement sighed on July 27, have abstained from the military actions. According to the DPI, only the positions of Karabakh forces at the Agdam-Fizuli area are occasionally shelled with the machine guns. Simultaneously the Azerbaijani troops' accumulations and active movements having advance character are observed at some sectors of the front.

Bonds To Be Issued To Finance War Effort

LD0408110094 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 0400 GMT 4 Aug 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] From 1 September 1994 Azerbaijan is planning to put into circulation state bonds worth a total of five billion manats. It is possible that the new bonds will be distributed among juridical persons on a compulsory basis. This effort by the republic's Ministry of Finance is without doubt prompted by the need to finance the continuing war in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Georgia

Quadripartite Talks on Refugees Begins in Sochi

LD0508095494 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0250 GMT 5 Aug 94

[Text] Another round of the quadripartite talks on the problem of Georgian refugees has begun in Sochi. Here is what Vladislav Abramov, a Radio Sochi correspondent, told us by telephone:

[Abramov] Questions of guaranteeing the safety of citizens who have returned to Galskiy rayon from Georgia and also questions connected with the procedure for the return of refugees are being discussed at the talks in Sochi. The talks are rather difficult but what are the prospects for resolving the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict? I asked Nikolay Chulkov, head of the Russian delegation at the talks and chief of the operational reception directorate of Russia's federal migration service.

[Begin Chulkov recording] Prospects do exist, but in fact when we visited Galskiy rayon we saw people who have returned already. We spoke to them, spoke to representatives of the authorities who guarantee their security, and on the whole, in the three villages named by the agreement, return is possible today. But the Abkhaz side links the beginning of an organized return with the withdrawal of Georgian troop subunits from Kodori Gorge. Unfortunately, that has not yet been resolved. [Major] General [Vitaliy] Yakushev, commander of the peacekeeping forces, is there at present. He is holding

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

talks with the commanders of subunits there on withdrawing and security will be guaranteed by the Russian peacekeeping contingent. [end recording]

Abkhaz Side Said Not To Attend Meeting

LD0408140594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0920 GMT 4 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Irina Shchegoleva]

[Text] Sochi, 4 Aug— The Abkhaz side does not intend to take part in the session of the quadripartite commission on the problem of the return of the refugees which has been planned in Sochi today. UN representatives and members of the Russian delegation, headed by Nikolay Chulkov, head of a department of the Russian Federal Migration Service, have arrived here.

The Abkhaz side said that it is suspending its participation in the work of the commission until such time as the Georgian armed formations are withdrawn from the Kodor Gorge.

In a conversation with an ITAR-TASS correspondent, Nikolay Chulkov stressed that in his opinion the procedure for the return of the refugees could be discussed independent of a solution to military questions. "We have too many unresolved problems which can be looked at first", he said.

Official Meets With Russian Peacekeeping Commander

MK0508081694 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Aug 94 p 3

[Unattributed report under the "NEGA Reports" rubric: "Georgia"]

[Text] A meeting between representatives of the Georgian command and the Russian peacekeeping forces has been held in Zugdidi. The meeting, which was attended by General Vasiliy Yakushev, commander of the Russian peacekeeping forces, and Guram Nikolaishvili, chief of the General Staff of the Georgian Defense Ministry, focused on the progress of the peacekeeping operation, and the implementation of certain provisions of the agreement on a cease-fire in the area of the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict.

According to Georgian Deputy Finance Minister Otar Bagrationi, the country's foreign debt currently amounts to $810 million.

Georgian Deputy Prime Minister Temur Basiliya has said that unless radical economic reform starts in the republic, he will have to resign. Basiliya thinks it necessary to stop financing money-losing sectors, a practice that increases the budget deficit. If the National Bank does not issue new credits, then signs of stabilization may emerge by next spring.

Ukrainian Official Visits Zugdidi To Discuss Ties

LD0408230994 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1300 GMT 4 Aug 95

[Text] The information center for the settlement of the Abkhaz conflict has told the CONTACT news agency from Zugdidi that the recent stable situation in Georgia has made it possible to restore economic ties with former partners.

An all-embracing program for restoring economic ties between the Republics of Georgia and Ukraine has been worked out in the Ukrainian Embassy in Georgia. The program is targeted at studying the economic situation in various regions of the republic and working out specific suggestions for the Ukrainian Government.

To this end, Vasil Melnik, second secretary of the Ukrainian Embassy in Georgia, accompanied by representatives of Ukrainian TV, arrived in Zugdidi on 4 August. Melnik met the administrator of Zugdidi and Zugdidi Rayon. They discussed available reserves in agriculture and the economy and visited the porcelain factory and the Sakkaghaldi [Georgian paper production factory] enterprise. The guests liked their production and expressed their wish for cooperation. Melnik and the representatives of Ukrainian TV left for Batumi today.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Estonia

Laar Says Treaty With Russia Must Be Reviewed

WS0408144394 Tallinn BNS in English 1327 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Tallinn, Aug 04, BNS—Since the Estonian and the Russian president haven't as yet signed the Estonian-language texts of the first two Estonian-Russian agreements, the government cannot have them examined by law experts, Prime Minister Mart Laar said at a press conference in Tallinn today. "I hope (Estonian President) Lennart Meri and (Russian President) Boris Yeltsin will sign Estonian texts of the troop withdrawal and the military pensioners agreement in the course of work," Laar said.

The premier said the Justice Ministry can undertake a thorough analysis of the agreements only when their official Estonian translations become available. Laar added that the accords will be sent for ratification in the parliament after they have been examined by law experts.

Laar called on all political forces to refrain from pronouncing on the accords before expertise. "Estonia needs one official interpretation to fix the juridical meaning of one or another word," he maintained. "Interestingly enough, some people interpret the agreements the same way as the Russian side, which I find amazing, considering their national views."

Russian Commander on Paldiski Dismantling

WS0408115794 Tallinn BNS in English 1721 GMT 3 Aug 94

[Text] Tallinn, Aug 03, BNS—Estonia's special government representative Juri Tikk, governor of Paldiski colonel Raul Luks and deputy director of Estonian firefighting and rescue service Kalev Timberg met Capt. Boris Borisov in Paldiski today. Borisov is deputy commander of the Russian navy Paldiski training center. Not yet possessing an official agreement draft supposed to be sent by the Russian Government, Borisov was unwilling to consent to any proposals by Estonian representatives.

Luks reported Borisov saying that a group of Russian specialists for the dismantling works is to arrive in Estonia Aug. 8-9. Their number is not fixed yet. Together with them, a timetable for the works will be set up. In Borisov's opinion the dismantling might begin about Aug. 15-20.

The Russian side will be ready to give a news conference in Paldiski before the works begin, Col. Luks told BNS.

The sides at today's meeting were unable to agree on whether the uniformed and lightly armed specialists guarding the security of the reactors' service building were to be included in the number of the 210 allowed in Estonia according to the agreement. Relaying his claim on the agreement's paragraph six item two, Borisov held the view that they were. The Estonian representatives disagreed, Luik said.

Latvia

Yeltsin Reaction to Citizenship Law Said Perplexing

LD0408200094 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1800 GMT 4 Aug 94

[text] Today, the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Latvia issued a statement stating that it is perplexed by the statement of Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin concerning the Latvian citizenship law. As we reported, in his statement Yeltsin condemned the Latvian Parliament for ignoring the objections and proposals of western governments and international organizations. The Foreign Ministry is forced to conclude that the claims made in the statement by the president of the Russian Federation do not correspond to reality. Many authoritative international organizations, particularly the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe, consulted with the Latvian Parliament during the adoption of this law. The recommendations of these and other organizations are included in the law as adopted, thus ensuring its correspondence with international standards. In its declaration of 29 July, the European Union welcomed the adoption of the citizenship law in Latvia and assessed it as a good basis for progress in the integration of ethnic minorities and the development of intercommunal relations.

This statement demonstrates the Russian side's inadequate grasp of the stance of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and of the Council of Europe, as well as of the work of the Latvian Parliament. The Latvian Foreign Ministry expresses regret that the Russian side has not based its assessment of this law on those internationally recognized principles upon which the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, and the European Union are conducted.

Lithuania

Bomb Scare Forces UK's Major To Divert Route

WS0408120094 Tallinn BNS in English 1515 GMT 3 Aug 94

[Text] Vilnius, Aug 3, BNS—A false alarm of a possible bomb accident made British Prime Minister John Major change his route from the government building to the residence of state guests during his visit to Vilnius Tuesday.

A person identifying himself by an invented name warned the director of the central supermarket in Vilnius a few minutes to 1400, at the time the British prime

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

minister was giving a news conference, that a bomb had been placed somewhere in the store building and should go up in three hours' time. The general store, which is situated at about 200 meters' distance in the front of the government building, was surrounded by the police, the building was evacuated and traffic stopped in the vicinities.

The route of John Major after the news conference at the government was changed for security considerations.

Police deminers, however, failed to detect any explosives in the shop. This has been the second false alarm of the kind at the Vilnius general store this year.

The threat of a bomb accident at the biggest Vilnius supermarket this time coincided not only with a visit of the British prime minister to Lithuania but with the 25th anniversary of the coming of British troops into Northern Ireland as well. However, city authorities do not officially raise the version that an act of terrorism could be carried out in Vilnius in connection with the anniversary of British forces' participation in the Northern Ireland conflict. Police says the threat was rather related with the privatization of the general store currently under way.

Envoys Briefed on Drought Damage

WS0508092994 Tallinn BNS in English 1725 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Vilnius, August 4, ELTA—Ambassadors of G-24 countries residing in Lithuania and representatives of other international missions participated in the meeting held on Thursday at the Agricultural Ministry.

Lithuanian Agricultural Minister Rimantas Karazija informed the participants about the losses experienced by Lithuanian farmers because of the drought. According to Karazija, in many areas, particularly in the eastern Lithuania, spring crops have already been destroyed by the drought and the harvest of winter crops and potatoes will also be poor. Root-crops of sugar-beets are twice smaller than normally, which means that processors will be short of local raw-material for sugar production. Market gardening companies also find themselves in great trouble. As pastures have also been destroyed by the drought, in some areas agricultural companies and farmers have started to fodder cattle using winter reserves.

Karazija said that the detailed information about the outcomes of the drought in Lithuania would be provided for the governments of the economically strong countries. Lithuania is expecting to get support from these countries.

Rimantas Dapkus, Director of the Lithuanian Agricultural Institute, said that good seed, albumin additions to fodder as well as veterinary preparations would be the most useful aid for Lithuania.

Defense Minister on Peacekeeping

BR0408134594 Copenhagen POLITIKEN in Danish 3 Aug 94 p 8

[Report on an interview with Lithuanian Defense Minister Linas Linkevicius on the debate surrounding the deployment of a Lithuanian division to Croatia, by Ib Faurby in Steyning, England; date not given: "Lithuanian Dispute on Cooperation—Lithuanian Foreign Minister Praises Denmark for Its Peacekeeping Commitment"]

[Text] The Lithuanian Parliament has debated the proposal to send a division of troops to the Danish UN battalion in Croatia. The proposal was adopted by a large majority, but not all members of parliament were enthusiastic about it.

Unlike Lithuania's Defense Minister Linas Linkevicius, who told POLITIKEN: "There can be no overestimating the importance of Danish efforts to build up a peacekeeping force in the three Baltic states. This will be decisive for the future structure of our defenses."

The Danish-Lithuanian defense cooperation agreement was signed during Danish Defense Minister Hans Haekkerup's visit to Lithuania in March of this year. It is a general agreement, like other agreements concluded between Denmark with Poland, Estonia, and Latvia. In addition, the Baltic states have agreed to set up a joint peacekeeping battalion consisting of one company from each of the three countries.

The decision to send a Lithuanian division to join the Danish battalion in Croatia constitutes a special agreement, which is known among government officials as the "helicopter agreement." This is because it was concluded during a helicopter flight in Lithuania, when the two defense ministers were in the same helicopter without any colleagues.

As one part of the preparations, Danish troops from Vaerne on Bornholm were in Lithuania in July, and the Lithuanian division will come to Denmark in August for final training before leaving for Croatia at the end of the month. Provided that Lithuania proves capable of sticking to the schedule.

POLITIKEN asked Defense Minister Linas Linkevicius why there was opposition to the agreement in the Lithuanian Parliament.

Parliament's Opposition

[Linkevicius] There were two resolutions. One concerned a general law regarding the deployment of troops abroad on peacekeeping and humanitarian operations. This also included the possibility of sending reinforcements to the Baltic peacekeeping battalion.

This general law was adopted without any problems. In the meantime, the law demands that Parliament make specific decisions on each occasion that forces are

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

deployed. And it was that specific decision to send a division to Croatia that sparked off the debate.

The main question in the debate in Parliament was this: Should we send our modest forces abroad, or should we intensify defense in Lithuania? It is understandable that this matter be discussed. However, the government managed to convince the majority that by being active internationally, we can train our Armed Forces and adapt them more effectively to the collective defense system in the West, i.e., the Western European Union and NATO. In this instance, adaptation to the United Nations, i.e., a "soft" attitude to the form of cooperation.

Another counter argument was psychological. This was due to a lack of information regarding what constitutes peacekeeping and peace-enforcing operations. Some people still remember when our young men were sent to Afghanistan. That was a waste, and a tragedy for the families involved.

Consequently, there were those who asked why it was necessary once again to send our young men off to war. We had to explain that it was not a question of war, but rather a matter of upholding the peace.

There are also some people who reject everything that has to do with the military. There are so-called peace movements or green movements. Perhaps I should add that there are also some factions, not necessarily within the borders of our country, who would only very reluctantly see us become integrated into Western Europe. Accordingly, they try to influence our politics in every conceivable manner.

There were only eight or nine deputies who voted against the proposal to send a division to join the Danish battalion in Croatia. Some of them left the Chamber. As far as I could understand, they were not opposed to the idea itself, but were dissatisfied with the procedure used. They wanted more time to debate the issue.

There was also some debate about how the force should be financed.

On several occasions I have told Parliament that we are not begging for more money for the preliminary phase of the program. The problem exclusively concerns how to disburse the money that was already earmarked in the budget.

Perhaps we will need more money for the program next year. However, in that connection we should remember the support received from Denmark regarding the training of the division. We are now sending the division to Denmark for a few weeks, whereby it is Denmark that is absorbing all the costs. However, I repeat, perhaps there are those who have not heard this or who do not wish to hear it.

Threat of Instability

[Faurby] What military threat does Lithuania face?

[Linkevicius] We have no list of enemies. The threat is instability.

[Faurby] Yes, but if we look at a map, is there not instability in several places where there is a threat to Lithuania. In Russia for example?

[Linkevicius] Yes, of course, because that is our closest neighbor. However, there is no need to draw up a list of our enemies. The enemy is instability in the countries concerned. One of the central principles in our foreign policy is not to describe any country as our enemy. We would rather talk about our partners and look for opportunities for cooperation.

[Faurby] What about Kaliningrad, where there is a strong concentration of military strength?

[Linkevicius] The specific problem is instability—not just military instability, but also political and social instability. The social situation in Kaliningrad could explode, due to the large number of people living there under poor conditions and facing an uncertain future.

This is not a problem just for us, but rather for all the states bordering the Baltic. International attention must be brought to this problem, e.g., via a round table conference.

[Faurby] However, Lithuania has its own special problems concerning transit to and from Kaliningrad.

[Linkevicius] A group of Lithuanian experts decided that such transits should be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. So it is now up to the politicians to state their view on this matter.

[Faurby] And yet the Russians would prefer to have a permanent arrangement.

[Linkevicius] Yes, not only do they want a permanent arrangement, they also want an unlimited one. That is understandable, but unacceptable for us. We must have control to safeguard against smuggling, e.g., of drugs, arms—yes, and maybe even nuclear weapons. Perhaps the problem should be internationalized so that we can point out, if the Russians exert pressure on us, that we have to consult our partners.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 352
MERRIFIELD, VA.

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government. Users of this publication may cite FBIS or JPRS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying them as the secondary source.

Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) and Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS) publications contain political, military, economic, environmental, and sociological news, commentary, and other information, as well as scientific and technical data and reports. All information has been obtained from foreign radio and television broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, books, and periodicals. Items generally are processed from the first or best available sources. It should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed. Except for excluding certain diacritics, FBIS renders personal names and place-names in accordance with the romanization systems approved for U.S. Government publications by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [ ] are supplied by FBIS/JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how the information was processed from the original. Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear from the original source but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source. Passages in boldface or italics are as published.

SUBSCRIPTION/PROCUREMENT INFORMATION

The FBIS DAILY REPORT contains current news and information and is published Monday through Friday in eight volumes: China, East Europe, Central Eurasia, East Asia, Near East & South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and West Europe. Supplements to the DAILY REPORTs may also be available periodically and will be distributed to regular DAILY REPORT subscribers. JPRS publications, which include approximately 50 regional, worldwide, and topical reports, generally contain less time-sensitive information and are published periodically.

Current DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are listed in *Government Reports Announcements* issued semimonthly by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161 and the *Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications* issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

The public may subscribe to either hardcover or microfiche versions of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications through NTIS at the above address or by calling (703) 487-4630. Subscription rates will be provided by NTIS upon request. Subscriptions are availabie outside the United States from NTIS or appointed foreign dealers. New subscribers should expect a 30-day delay in receipt of the first issue.

U.S. Government offices may obtain subscriptions to the DAILY REPORTs or JPRS publications (hardcover or microfiche) at no charge through their sponsoring organizations. For additional information or assistance, call FBIS, (202) 338-6735,or write to P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013. Department of Defense consumers are required to submit requests through appropriate command validation channels to DIA, RTS-2C, Washington, D.C. 20301. (Telephone: (202) 373-3771, Autovon: 243-3771.)

Back issues or single copies of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are not available. Both the DAILY REPORTs and the JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at many Federal Depository Libraries. Reference copies may also be seen at many public and university libraries throughout the United States.